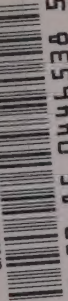


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HISTORY  
OF  
SENECA COUNTY  
OHIO

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A Narrative Account of its Historical Progress,  
Its People, and its Principal Interests.

BY

A. J. BAUGHMAN

ASSISTED BY A LOCAL CORPS OF ABLE CONTRIBUTORS

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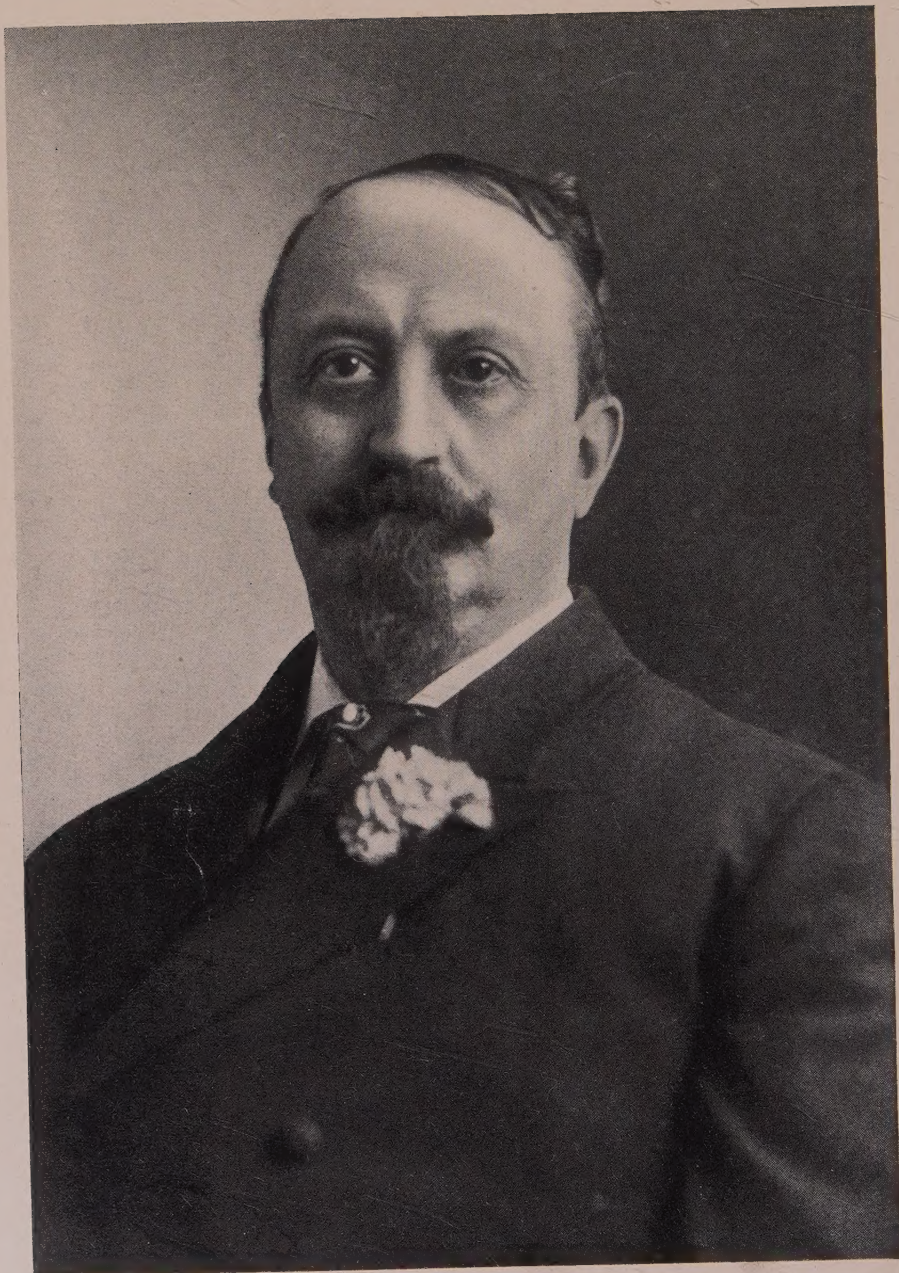
1911











Dr. J. G. Morton



DR. JAMES A. NORTON.—Many men excel in achievement in some course but to few is it permitted to follow several lines of endeavor and stand well to the front of each. In the career of Dr. Norton is given a striking illustration of such exceptional accomplishment. As a physician he won pronounced prestige; in the profession of law he likewise gained recognition as an able and versatile advocate and counselor; he served with distinction as a gallant soldier of the Union in the Civil war and in public office of high order he has made an enviable record, including that of his service as a member of congress; as a business man he has produced results of the most positive character and the fiber of the man is indicated by the unqualified confidence and esteem reposed in him by those with whom he has come in contact in the various relations of life.

It is pleasing to record that Dr. James Albert Norton is a native son of Seneca county and a scion of one of its honored pioneer families. He was born in the village of Bettsville, this county, on the 11th of November, 1843, and is a son of Dr. Rufus and Clarissa (Waters) Norton. His father was born in Utica, New York, and was a son of Isaiah Norton, who was born in the northern part of England and who was a descendant of one of the staunch old families that still has prominent representatives in English municipal affairs. The family is a branch of the Scottish McNaughton clan which was prominent in Scottish history during the time of the "Dark Douglas." Mrs. Clarissa (Waters) Norton was of French and English descent and, as has been well stated, "she possessed the vivacity and determination characteristic of the union of the Anglo-Saxon and Latin races." Dr. Rufus Norton was one of the pioneer physicians of Seneca county, was a man of strong intellectual powers and was prominently identified with the development and upbuilding of this now favored section of the Buckeye state. Both he and his wife continued to reside in this county until their death. Concerning the career of Dr. James A. Norton the following epitome previously published in a history of Seneca county is so well given as to make the same especially available for reproduction in the present volume.

"Born of such an ancestry and endowed by nature with more than a liberal share of intellectual power, personal attraction, magnetism, eloquence and courage, it is no wonder that James A. Norton should rise to the position and success he has achieved. The youngest of a family of five, four sons and one daughter, his boyhood days were passed in his native village, where he attended school. He accompanied his father in the long drives consequent upon a large medical practice, and he became deeply interested in the profession he afterward followed. His studies were continued



later in the public schools at Tiffin, and were marked by the close application and thoroughness which he has shown in every undertaking engaged in since then.

"Bred and nurtured in the Democratic faith, inspired with an ardent love for his country, moved by patriotic impulses, young Norton was an enthusiastic advocate for the maintenance of the Union, and found the restraint of school especially irksome when the Civil war came; and the news of battles fought, victories won or lost, made his heart beat with ambition and his pulse tingle with excitement until he could no longer endure inaction, so on the 16th of August, 1862, he bade adieu to home and friends, went to Monroeville and enlisted, when only eighteen years of age, in Company K, of the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in as a sergeant. He soon had occasion to begin actual service, for in September he went with his regiment to Covington, Kentucky, to repel a threatened invasion of the rebels under General Kirby Smith, but was soon afterward ordered to Louisville, where the regiment became part of General Buell's army. On the 8th of October, he first faced the enemy in battle array and thrilled with 'The stern joy which warriors feel in foemen worthy of their steel' when, at Perryville, a stubborn fight with the Confederates was had. This was quickly followed by a skirmish at Lancaster, and then, on December 30th, the year was closed by the memorable battle of Stone's River. The young soldier bore himself well in all these scenes of carnage and won the admiration of his comrades by his conduct, and often to this day he is greeted by survivors of that fight by their recalling incidents of Stone's River. In this battle the One Hundred and First Regiment took a most prominent part and suffered greater loss than any other regiment engaged in the fight. Nearly all its officers were killed, the gallant Colonel Leander Stem being among the number. The remnant of the regiment passed the winter in scout duty around Murfreesboro until it was ordered to take part in the Tullahoma campaign, and later to move against Chattanooga. It was in this latter campaign, at the battle of Chickamauga, September 20th, during the second day's fight, while supporting the Hotchkiss battery, that Sergeant Norton was wounded, his ribs on the left side being broken and his left lung injured, from which he has never fully recovered. He was left lying on the field of battle until found in an unconscious condition by his brother, Cyrus G. Norton, who was also a member of his company. He was taken to Chattanooga and placed in the old dye house used as a hospital, from which place he was removed to Stevenson, Alabama, and then to Hospital No. 8, at Nashville, Tennessee. Here he was granted a furlough, and returned to his home on a visit. Rejoining his regiment at Nashville, he was ordered by the brigade commander to report before an examining board for promotion to the regular army, under general orders requiring the selection of the most capable men to officer new troops. After a severe examination he was passed and received his commission as lieutenant, signed by President Lincoln, and was assigned to the One Hundred and Twenty-third United States (Colored) Infantry,



with orders to report to General John M. Palmer, who sent him to Louisville, Kentucky, to drill the colored troops. This detail was not regarded with favor by many of the officers, who declined such assignment, but Lieutenant Norton, believing it a soldier's duty to obey orders, hastened to his post and at once began to carry out his orders. After the dark-skinned soldiers had acquired considerable proficiency in military tactics and were under good discipline he was made adjutant and detailed with a body of troops to go to Bowling Green, Kentucky, to locate and care for a quantity of ordnance, remaining at this place until October 16, 1865, when he was mustered out by an error. Orders had been sent to muster out the One Hundred and Twenty-second Regiment, but in copying the order at division headquarters it was made to read 'One Hundred and Twenty-third,' and thus, inadvertently, his connection with the army ceased.

"In the meantime Lieutenant Norton had married. While at home on his furlough, on the 19th of July, 1865, he went to Fostoria, the home of his bride, and there wedded Miss Adeline Hemming, then in her twentieth year of age, who accompanied him back to Louisville and remained with him until he was mustered out. Miss Hemming was the daughter of Thomas Hemming, who was one of the early settlers of the county, and who was the oldest educator, in point of service, in northwestern Ohio, having been engaged in teaching for over fifty years. He was also county surveyor for a number of years, and as such made the survey of Seneca county.

"Returning to civil life, Mr. Norton took up the study of medicine in his father's office and soon became a valued assistant. His close application was, however, too great a strain upon his health, and in 1869 he went to Hampton, Iowa, and entered upon a separate practice of his chosen profession. Deriving great benefit from the invigorating climate, his health became restored and he soon had a large practice, constantly increasing, until in 1871, his father being accidentally killed, he returned to his native village and for eight years was the leading physician of that part of the country.

"Having inherited the creed of Democracy, observation and study but deepened and strengthened his convictions and belief in the truth and solidity of Democratic principles. In those stirring times of political action he could not refrain from taking more than a passing interest in the events of the day, and when he entered into the field of political conflict his keen sagacity, sound judgment and enthusiastic devotion to party principles soon placed him at the forefront as a leader. Recognizing his ability and fitness, his party in Seneca county in 1873 placed him in nomination as their representative to the general assembly of the state, to which office he was elected by a large majority. Here his qualifications were quickly recognized and he became one of the leaders, and his fund of information, his readiness in debate, his fluency of speech and his eloquence gave him prominence. He was placed on important committees and was elected speaker pro tem. of the house. His course while in the legislature gave him high standing

in the councils of his party in the state, where he was recognized as one of its foremost advisers.. During his attendance at the general assembly he devoted his evenings and spare moments to the study of law, in the office of Hon. George L. Converse, at Columbus, and in 1879 was admitted to the bar. It was largely due to Dr. Norton's efforts that the law was passed requiring all public officers to execute all pension papers free.

"At the close of the general assembly in 1879 Dr. Norton returned to Tiffin, which he made his headquarters while acting as general manager and solicitor for the Wiley Construction Company of Massachusetts. During 1880 he purchased the paper known as the *Herald*, and edited it with such vigor that the first issue brought a five thousand dollar libel suit, which, however, was never prosecuted. The *Herald* was later sold to Dr. E. B. Hubbard, and subsequently it became the *Tribune*. Dr. Norton, still kept an active interest in local politics, serving as president of the school board, president of the common council, and was a member of the Seneca County Agricultural Society. The only political defeat that Dr. Norton ever met was when he ran for councilman on the famous cow ordinance. Standing for rigid enforcement of its provisions, he was defeated by the vote of a large number who wanted their cows to run at large. In 1884 he was a delegate to the national Democratic convention. In August, 1885, he was appointed auditor of Seneca county in place of F. E. Stoner, deceased, and in October of the same year was elected to the office, and again in 1887 was re-elected. He was appointed as United States inspector of customs at Panama, by President Cleveland, but declined. He served as chairman of the Democratic State Central and Executive Committees and as chairman of the state convention. In 1890 he was appointed by Governor Campbell as state commissioner of railroads and telegraphs, serving the state with fidelity and success during the whole of Governor Campbell's administration, and for four months under Governor McKinley, when he resigned to accept a position in the law department of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. In 1896 Dr. Norton was nominated by the Democracy of the Thirteenth district of Ohio for representative in congress, at a convention held at Marion, Ohio. In 1898 he was renominated, at Upper Sandusky; in 1900, at Bucyrus, he was again for the third time nominated; and in 1902, at Sandusky, by an overwhelming majority, he was again selected candidate for the fourth term in congress, and each time he was elected by an increasing majority.

"In congress he served on the invalid pensions and District of Columbia committees, and he gave time and attention to the duties of his office. His quick perception, his sound judgment, wise counsel and unfailing good nature gave him a firm hold upon the esteem, confidence and friendship of his fellow members. He is ever ready to champion the principles of his party, and is ever at the front, taking the advance step, and points out in speeches of combined logic, argument, sarcasm and eloquence the true position upon which Americans, as such, regardless of party can stand.

"Dr. Norton, with his social nature of course could not but



have some affiliation with fraternal organizations, so we find that in the winter of 1864-65, at Louisville, Kentucky, he became a member of Compass Lodge, No. 222, Free and Accepted Masons; and in 1882, a member of Tiffin Lodge, No. 80, Knights of Pythias. He was a charter member of Leander Stem Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and a regular attendant until at the death of General W. H. Gibson this post united with another post and took the name of W. H. Gibson Post; then Dr. Norton with a large number of others, withdrew, believing it was wrong to the memory of the heroes who died on the field of battle to drop their name for one who had no greater military claim and who had been honored in civil life. Dr. Norton is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and finds pleasure in the friendships and fraternal spirit found in that order."

Generous to a fault and social to a high degree, Dr. Norton wins friends easily, and he has the happy faculty of drawing them closer to him as the years pass by. Viewed in a personal light he is a strong man, of excellent judgment, fair in his views and highly honorable in his relations with his fellow men. His integrity stands as an unquestioned fact in his career and his example is well worthy of emulation.

Dr. Norton has two children, Commander A. L. Norton of the United States Navy and Miss Clara Adele Norton. Commander Norton has been in the United States Navy for twenty-six years and has always borne a first class reputation. Miss Clara Adele Norton still lives with her father and mother, and is classed as high in her attainments.

JOHN L. COLE—One of Republic's prominent men is John L. Cole, attorney, former postmaster of the town and very active politically, having been entrusted with nearly all of the township and village offices. Mr. Cole is typically American, both in ideals of good citizenship and in birth and antecedents, the Cole family having constituted good citizen stock in this country for more than two hundred years. The founder of the Cole family in the United States was John Cole, who with his wife, Mercy, located in Rehoboth, Bristol county, Massachusetts, the farm which they secured and being still in the hands of their descendants. These doughty pilgrims who came here about the year 1710, became the parents of nine children, as follows, and the two eldest were born May 2, 1723, and August 17, 1726, respectively; Aaron was born March 5, 1728; Mercy, July 28, 1731; Patience, August 28, 1733; Nathan, March 13, 1735; Amos, May 7, 1737; Ruth, February 26, 1740; and Heziah, February 27, 1742.

Aaron Cole and his wife Susan became the parents of children as follows: Mary J., born January 21, 1752; Jonas, November 21, 1755; Aaron, January 8, 1758; Hulda, July 6, 1760; Molly, March 19, 1763; Noah, September 23, 1765; Sybil, July 18, 1767; Elizabeth, December 2, 1769; and Otis, August 3, 1772.

The next in line were Aaron and his wife Alice, whose nine children were: Joseph, born September 22, 1783; William, November 26, 1784; Nathan, October 15, 1786, he being the father of the

immediate subject of this review; Daniel, February 12, 1789; Nathaniel, September 29, 1791; Nancy, June 1, 1794; Simeon, January 29, 1796; Asahel, February 24, 1798 and Aaron, March 25, 1800.

Nathan Cole married Maria Walker, and they became the parents of a family which in size resembled those of the three or four preceding generations. Their ten children were: Fannie, Polly, Nathan, Hiram, Henry, Sally, Simeon, Abigail, John L. and Elsie. John L. Cole and Elsie, the youngest, who became the wife of Charles C. Fox of this township, are the only ones of the family remaining in the state of Ohio with the exception of their own children.

Mr. Cole was born February 4, 1840, and was educated in the public schools and in the Seneca County Academy at Republic, pursuing his studies under the able direction of Dr. Aaron Schuyler. After finishing in that institution at the age of seventeen years he taught school for a number of years and won recognition as one of the most conscientious and enlightened educators of the county. He was principal of the Republic high school for two years. At the age of twenty-five years he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar August 22, 1867, and ever since that date has engaged in the practice of his profession in this county. The Republican party look upon him as one of the leading spirits and as previously mentioned he has held many public offices. He was appointed postmaster of the town during the McKinley administration and served in that capacity for six years. He is one of the prominent Masons of this part of the state and has held the secretary's chair in this august order, being also a member of the local chapter of the Eastern Star.

Mr. Cole resided with his parents until his thirty-sixth year, his marriage occurring on the 9th day of October, 1876, the lady to become his wife being Ann Marie Platte, also the scion of a fine, old American family.

Anne Marie Platte was born December 8, 1841, in Republic, and is the daughter of Joel and Rachel A. (Norton) Platte, natives of Long Island, New York. The first Platte to be recorded in American annals was Stephen, of New York, who married Kezia Weeks, a native of Long Island and a person of remarkable musical ability. Joel Platte, father of Mrs. Cole, who was a ship carpenter by trade, came to Ohio in 1834 and located in this township. The previous year there had come to Seneca county Rachel A., daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth J. (Hall) Norton and these two young people subsequently joined their hands and fortunes in marriage. Joel was born January 12, 1809, and his wife, February 9, 1816, and they were married June 1, 1834. Mrs. Cole's maternal grandparents were E. J. and Jerissa (Head) Hall, and Jerissa was the daughter of Daniel and Mary (Johnson) Norton. The above mentioned Johnson was an English student and upon one day visiting a gunboat in the harbor of Liverpool, he was impressed into service without his consent and was carried to America, but upon landing he deserted and joined the American ranks, the Revolutionary war being at that time in progress.

Mrs. Cole resided with her parents until her marriage, and like her husband was educated in the Republic Academy under Aaron Schuyler, now president of the Selina University of Kansas. She specialized in Latin, Greek and higher mathematics, and was graduated from the institution in the year 1862. Afterwards she taught under Professor Schuyler in the old academy for several years and had the distinction of being the only woman superintendent in the township. She likewise taught in Flat Rock and was principal of the high school of Republic, her whole career as an educator covering a period of twenty-seven years. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cole was solemnized October 9, 1876, and was blessed by the birth of two children, a son and a daughter. The elder, Elsie L., became the wife of J. R. Loudenstager of Bellevue, and their two children, Gretchen M., born October 4, 1902, and Doris H., born April 28, 1906, give the Coles the happy distinction of grandparents. Their son, Heath K., was born September 16, 1880. He was educated in the public schools of Republic, graduating from its higher department at the age of fifteen years; matriculating at Heidelberg University at Tiffin and graduated there in 1901; and finished a course in law at the Ohio State University, from which institution he was sent forth with his degree in 1903. He went to Topeka Kansas, where he remained for a short time and was there admitted to the bar in 1905, being now a resident of Tiffin, where he is engaged in the practice of his profession.

Mrs. Cole is a member of the old Baptist church of Republic and one of its most zealous workers. This church has had a varied history, having been the first store building erected in the town, the same being later used for a school building. The church association then purchased it and converted it into a church and here many services have been held. Mrs. Cole is a charter member and the second secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society. She was the first worthy matron of the Eastern Star and was grand representative of Florida at the session of the order held at Columbus. She is a woman of marked efficiency and served as deputy postmistress from 1900 to 1905, when her husband held the chief office.

Mrs. Cole's brothers, Edson and Joseph N. Platte, were in service during the progress of the Civil war. Edson died in the army, after having been taken prisoner three times. Joseph now resides in Sheridan, Wyoming, where he pursues the calling of an architect.

FREDERICK CHARLES GILCHER, M. D.—As a member of the medical profession Dr. Frederick Charles Gilcher has won distinction, and although but a few years have passed since he became one of its representatives, he enjoys an extensive and remunerative practice. In no profession is there more constant progress than in that of medicine and surgery and Dr. Gilcher is of that admirable type of physician who believes it no less than a crime not to keep in touch with the latest word in the science. He is a native son of the state, his birth having occurred April 11, 1874, at Sandusky, and his parents being Charles A. and Belle (Degen-



feld) Gilcher, also natives of the Buckeye state. Charles Gilcher is the son of Peter and Christine (Boos) Gilcher, whose birth occurred in Germany. Thus by descent Mr. Gilcher belongs to that fine nationality which America considers one of her worthiest sources of emigration. His grandparents soon after crossing the Atlantic located in Sandusky.

Dr. Gilcher's parents were married December 30, 1872, and after that event the father embarked in the lumber business in Sandusky. The maternal grandfather of the subject, whose name was Christopher Degenfeld, had a gallant Civil war record, having offered his services to the defense of the Union almost at the beginning of the great conflict between the states. He was made major of the Twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, but was forced to resign on account of illness. He subsequently recruited a company of the Twelfth Ohio Cavalry and was made captain of the same. At the battle fought at Saltville, Virginia, he fell from wounds, was captured and sent to Libby prison, where he was incarcerated for a long period. He died from the effects of his wounds in 1878. His wife, whose maiden name was Francis Lenhart, survived until 1892. The paternal grandfather was called to his eternal rest in 1877, and his wife two years later. Dr. Gilcher's father is a loyal Democrat and a member of the Royal Arcanum.

Dr. Gilcher received his preliminary education in the public schools and resided with his parents until 1896, in which year he came to Republic and took up the practice of medicine. When looking about him for a life work he had been inclined toward medicine and he received his training in the homoeopathic department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Michigan, being graduated in 1896. During his last year in college he was interne in the hospital. He is of the school of homoeopathy. Aside from his professional work he has taken an active and able part in public affairs and at present holds the office of president of the board of education. He was mayor of Republic, serving from March, 1903, until January, 1906. He is a member of the Republican Central Committee. He has always taken great interest in township and county politics and is well informed in the issues of the present day. The office of health officer of Republic was held by him from 1898 to 1903, and during the past ten years he has been the health officer of Scipio township. He may indeed be accounted one of the leading and progressive citizens of Seneca county and one whose career is not yet at its zenith.

On the 19th day of April, 1899, Dr. Gilcher took as his wife Miss Nellie M. Harton, of Toledo, born April 22, 1882, to Frank and Marian Chittenden. Her mother died when Nellie was thirteen months old and she was reared by an uncle, Edward S. Chittenden, who was located at Republic in the grocery and drug business. He later moved to Tiffin and thence to Toledo, where he became manager of the Milner department store. Dr. and Mrs. Gilcher have one living child, Edwin Lysle, born August 9, 1909.

The subject takes pleasure in his lodge relations, which extend

to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is one of three children. His brother, Frank C., born June 5, 1877, resides in Sandusky, where he is city manager of the Lake Shore Electric Railway. He received his education in Sandusky. A sister, Ethel M., is the wife of William Douglas, a machinist living in Cleveland, Ohio.

H. BERNARD BERLEKAMP was born in Prussia October 12, 1843, a son of Henry and Mary Berlekamp, natives of Teelenbourg, both of whom were born about 1788. He was reared on his father's farm until he reached the age of eleven years, and was then hired out by his parents, according to the custom of the time and place. About eleven years later he was called back home on account of the illness of his father and mother. They died, he on April 7, and she on June 27, 1862. He was now thrown entirely on his own resources and found work for which he was promised an equivalent of fourteen dollars a year. He had to walk from three to five miles to work in the morning during the summer season. From two-thirty or three o'clock to about eight he cut grass. Then he walked back to the house to get his breakfast. Sometimes the distance was as great as four or five miles. The inconveniences and hardships that he had to endure during the rest of the day, the working part of which was extended well into the night, were scarcely less serious. Reading of it in America, where labor conditions are now so different, one wonders that human flesh and blood could bear up under it all. When he was twenty-two he was sent to the German army to give the best three years of his life to the service of his country. It was a period of restraint and of hard service that he will never forget. When he returned home he was employed in a coal mine, where he labored from eight to twelve hours a day, walking eight or nine miles night and morning. It was well for him that his marching experiences in the army had in a measure prepared him for this. One would not think he traveled any more easily for the heavy wooden shoes that he wore, but he does not mention these as adding particularly to the hardness of his lot at that time. When he had been thus employed three months he broke his leg. This accident laid him up three months. Hardly had he returned to work when he broke the scarcely healed fracture asunder and went back to idleness and suffering for four months more. When he was out again he turned his back on the coal mine in favor of a stone quarry. It is not to be supposed that conditions there were much better. As soon as he could save up a little money he gathered his few valuables and prepared to seek his fortune in America. He came over on board the ship Danuegh and was eleven days in making the voyage. He landed at New York, whence he soon went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was given work at teaming by an old school mate who had come over before him and obtained a foothold in the new world.

After he had labored in Cincinnati about nine months he was ready to strike out for the country, where he had been informed opportunities for advancement were better and more plentiful than they were in the city. Coming to Pleasant township, Seneca

county, forty-one years ago, he worked for a time for B. Rule. After about twelve years, during which he was variously employed, he bought a farm on the Portland road. At length he sold out there and located on one hundred and eight and one-half acres which is a part of his present farm of two hundred and fifteen acres. He has deeded a large farm to his son. Together they own six hundred acres.

On February 1, 1870, Mr. Berlekamp married Caroline Cook, born February 1, 1851, a daughter of Fred A. and Elizabeth M. (Speaker) Cook, natives of Prussia. Mr. and Mrs. Cook located at Republic, Seneca county, in 1870 and engaged in farming. They bought eighty acres of fine land, gave their attention to mixed crops and raised and marketed considerable live stock. Mr. Cook was born December 14, 1819, and died March 31, 1889. Mrs. Cook was born November 23, 1818, and died February 18, 1884. Mr. Berlekamp was one of twelve children: Guard, Henry, Fred, Jacob, William, H. Bernard, Minnie, Sophie, Kate, Christine, Mary and Carl. Mrs. Berlekamp was one of five children: Minnie, Harmon, Henry, August and Caroline. She and her husband have had eight children: August B., was born October 5, 1875; Amelia, is the wife of Lawrence Scheelenhelm. She was born October 22, 1871; Louisa, born in August, 1873, married Dell Farber of Sandusky; Jennie, born November 10, 1877, is Mrs. William Ohler, of Adams township; Frank, born November 28, 1879; Oscar, born June 26, 1883; Charles H., born April 6, 1885, are all well known in Pleasant township. Robert, the youngest of the family, was born January 7, 1895. August B., died December 25, 1892.

Mr. Berlekamp is an elder in the Reformed church at Fremont. Mrs. Berlekamp is a member of the Ladies' Aid Society and of the Foreign Missions Society of that organization. In a general way they are helpful to all the interests of this church which they have adopted as their spiritual home. In his political convictions Mr. Berlekamp is a Republican. He has been school director and has ably filled other public offices. He takes much interest in the development and prosperity of the township and is ready in a public spirited way to do whatever he can to advance them.

CHARLES I. ANDERS, M. D.—One of Seneca county's useful and respected citizens and a man of excellent standing in his profession is Dr. Charles I. Anders, residing at Old Fort, where he enjoys a large practice and the friendship and confidence of the citizens of that town and the surrounding country, to whom he has so frequently ministered in the hour of need. He was born in Pleasant township, Seneca county, on June 20, 1869, the son of David B. and Phoebe A. (Clark) Anders, natives respectively of Pleasant township and Bloomville. Dr. Anders resided with his parents upon their farm in Pleasant township until he began to prepare for the profession for which he is particularly fitted by natural inclination. His preliminary education was received in the schools of Hedgetown and Greenspring, being graduated from the well known academy of the latter place in June, 1888.



Dr. Anders' professional education has been of a most thorough character. After two years at Adelbert College, where he completed his general training, he matriculated at the Western Reserve Medical College, both of these institutions being situated in the city of Cleveland. He was graduated from the medical department of the University of Wooster with the class of 1894, receiving his degree on March 21. He then had the invaluable benefit of fifteen months' experience as house physician at the Lakeside Hospital. He first established an office at Fort Seneca, where he remained for two years, then removing to Old Fort, where in the years ensuing he has built up a large practice and has secured widespread recognition for his ability.

Dr. Anders joined the ranks of the Benedicts on April 20, 1898, when he was united in marriage to Miss Lelia Decamp, born March 16, 1873, the daughter of Elias and Marion Decamp, natives of Allegan county, Michigan. Mrs. Anders is a woman of culture, her education having been received in the city of Cleveland and in Oberlin College. Their only son, Leavitt Decamp was born July 6, 1902. Dr. Anders and his wife are members of the United Brethren church and take an active part in its affairs, lending their support to all the good causes promulgated by it. The doctor is a Mason, being affiliated with the lodge at Greenspring, No. 427, and he is also a member of the Knights of The Maccabees, for which organization he is medical examiner. He endorses the policies and principles advanced by what its numerous admirers term "The Grand Old Party," and has given enlightened public service as township clerk for seven years and as clerk of the board of education for the decade elapsing since the year 1900.

Dr. Anders' father, David B., was born September 20, 1839, in Bloom township, his parents being William H. and Sarah (King) Anders, the father a native of the Old Dominion, the mother of Maryland. William H. was a posthumous child, his father's demise having occurred about three weeks previous to his birth, and thus left deprived of his natural protector he was reared by an uncle. The family was founded in Ohio by the grandfather of the subject, who when he came to the Buckeye state located on a farm near Bloomville and became a successful farmer and a well known citizen. David B. resided under the home roof until the death of his mother, when he was a youth about sixteen years of age. He thereupon started out in the world for himself, working out in the summer season and attending school at winter. The marriage of Dr. Anders' parents took place August 20, 1862, the mother having been born March 15, 1841, in Pleasant township, of Pinckney and Edith C. (Hubbard) Clark, the latter a daughter of one Caleb Hubbard of Ithaca, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Clark cast their fortunes with this township at an early date and took up land which they improved with all the courage and industry of their day and generation. The mother, who received her education at Republic and in Greenspring Academy, resided with her parents upon the old homestead until their death. Dr. Anders' father enlisted after the breaking out of the rebellion and gave three years of faithful service to his country under Captain Asa Schriver, of

Company H, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He went to camp with his regiment at Monroeville, later going on to Covington, Kentucky. He participated in the battle of Stone's River and also in the Atlanta campaign. This veteran and respected citizen is a member of the United Brethren church and gives his suffrage to the Republican party. He served for a good many years as Sunday School superintendent and has filled most of the offices in the Hedgetown church. He is public spirited and the friend of good education, and he has won the gratitude of his township as a member of the school board, his services being of the most efficient character.

HOWARD R. YOUNG, of Greenspring, associated with his brother Ervin J. Young in the manufacture of tile and brick, was born May 4, 1892, a son of Josiah H. and Carrie (Schuster) Young. A biographical sketch of his father, giving his antecedents and family history, and a biographical sketch of his brother involving a descriptive account of his business, are referred to in this connection. The reader will find them interesting as a part of the pioneer and business history of Adams township.

Mr. Young was a member of his parents' household till he was seventeen years old, then joined his brother in the enterprise mentioned, which had been established originally by their father. He has a half interest in the concern and is active in its management. In this business and in other ways he has demonstrated that he possesses those characteristics which make for success and good citizenship. He has shown, too, that he is actuated in his dealings with his fellow townsmen by an admirable public spirit that promises well for the advancement of the community so long as he is a member of it. There is no demand upon him to assist any movement looking to the enhancement of the public weal that he does not cordially respond to in a practical way that makes him helpful to the extent of his ability.

ROBERT H. WATSON is one of those good citizens whom Seneca county can especially claim by reason of birth within her borders, and here his life has thus far been spent with the exception of a period of six years in California, after which he returned from the golden west more than ever content with the fine qualities of the Buckeye state. The date of Mr. Watson's birth was December 11, 1847, and its scene was in Hopewell township, Seneca county. He is of that Scotch-Irish stock from which so many great and good Americans have sprung. His parents were Thomas W. and Sarah J. (Tomb) Watson, natives of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, who came here with their parents in the year 1836, the families locating in this township at what is known as Watson Station. Thomas W. Watson was born August 11, 1819, and his parents were William and Jane (McMeen) Watson. The subject's grandfather, William Watson, was born June 12, 1772, and came here either in the latter part of the eighteenth or the earlier part of the nineteenth century from county Donegal, Ireland. He settled in Pennsylvania, married Jane McMeen, a young woman of Scotch



descent, born October 8, 1774, and reared a family of ten children, of whom Thomas, Mr. Watson's father, was one of the youngest. One of the children of this stanch pioneer, Oliver, became one of the most eminent of Pennsylvania's jurists.

Thomas Watson desired an education rather better than that of the ordinary youth and he secured it, and at the early age of eighteen was well equipped to teach. His pedagogical career was only a step towards more education, for with the salary thereof he was enabled to wander farther afield in the pleasant paths of learning. In 1841 he completed his education, of a general character, being graduated from the Western Reserve school at Milan. He was engaged for a year in the mercantile business at Republic and then, ambitious to enter the ranks of the legal fraternity, he went to Tiffin, where he had the exceptional opportunity of reading law under the guidance of Attorneys Richard Williams, William Gibson, W. P. Noble and R. G. Pennington being fellow students. In 1845 his health failed, and being strongly advised by physicians to seek an outdoor life, he took up the vocation of agriculture. His property was located in Pleasant township, and although he gave great promise in the profession of his first choice, he was philosophical over the disappointment and achieved success as an exponent of the great basic industry of agriculture. In 1847, (January 13) he married Sarah Jane Tomb, daughter of Benjamin and Anna (Blackwell) Tomb. Benjamin Tomb was born in Pennsylvania, and Anna Blackwell Tomb was born and educated in England. To this union were born five children, three of whom are living at the present day. Anne is the wife of Charles H. Baldwin and Bessie is the widow of William Skinner and resides in Tiffin.

Thomas Watson, the father, was nearly ninety years of age when he died. He was a man who was held in respect and veneration by the entire community. For over half a century he held membership in the Presbyterian church and was its ruling elder for more than two score years.

Robert H. Watson remained under the home roof until the attainment of his majority, attending the district schools and also Western Reserve at Milan two years and became well grounded in the many departments of farming under the excellent tutelage of his father. He was too young to join the service at the time of the Civil war, but a few years after the termination of that struggle he went to California, as previously stated, and remained there half a dozen years, engaging in mining and merchandising, amid new scenes satisfying his love of adventure. About two years after his return he established a household of his own by his marriage to Letty L. Titus, this union being celebrated in May, 1879. They have four children: Ralph Titus, Helen Sarah, Hortense and Robert Dwight. Ralph Titus Watson married in December, 1896, Miss Elizabeth Fleet, a daughter Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Fleet of Tiffin. She was born in Eden township, Seneca county. They have two children, Marshal Fleet Watson and Thomas Wood Watson.

For several years after his marriage Robert H. Watson engaged in farming in Pleasant township, making a specialty of stock raising, but in 1888 he made something of a change and em-

barked in the grain business. He has applied his whole attention to this and has achieved no small amount of success building up a large trade which every year increases in scope. In this line he is ably assisted by his son Ralph. He and his family are members of the First Presbyterian church of Tiffin, and assist in every way in the furtherance of its excellent project. He is a director of the Commercial National Bank of Tiffin. He casts his vote with the Democratic party, except when on occasion he finds the men and measures advanced by other parties coincident with his own convictions.

FRANK W. BERLEKAMP.—The possessor of two hundred and forty-three of the fertile acres of Pleasant township, Seneca county, upon which he resides, and one hundred and forty-seven acres located elsewhere, part of this inherited and part his by right of purchase, Frank W. Berlekamp is a well known farmer who engages extensively in agriculture and stock raising, and he is a valuable citizen. He is of the German stock, of which the county has a plentiful representation and which figures as one of its thriftiest and most prosperous elements. Although already one of the large land holders, he is of the younger generation, his birth having occurred November 28, 1879, in Pleasant township. His parents are H. B. and Caroline (Cook) Berlekamp, both of them natives of Prussia, the father having come to "the land of promise" in 1869 and the mother, in 1870. They were married about a year after the mother's arrival and soon came on to the Buckeye state and to that favored portion of it known as Seneca county. They located first in Adams township and later in Pleasant township, where the father, who had means, purchased a four hundred acre farm.

The subject of this review remained under the parental roof until his marriage, receiving his education in the district school, choosing agriculture as his life work, and receiving a thorough training for this honorable vocation in the school of practical experience. He is an extensive farmer and stock feeder and ships annually from one to three cars of cattle and about five hundred sheep. He is a member of the Reformed church and he and his wife are very active in its good works, supporting it in every way. Mr. Berlekamp has volunteered to support a missionary minister of the Reformed church in China for at least five years. Politically he favors the Independent party.

The happy married life of Mr. and Mrs. Berlekamp dates from April 26, 1906, the latter's maiden name having been Nettie L. Sneath. She was born November 14, 1882, and is the daughter of Robert and Sarah (Snyder) Sneath, natives of Ohio. A complete record of the Sneath family, one of the most important hereabout, is given on other pages of this work. This union has been blessed by the birth of one daughter, Sarah Sneath, born June 8, 1909.

FREDERICK WILLIAM CONRADT, was one of the honored citizens and prominent business men of the city of Tiffin at the time of his death, which occurred here on the 14th of August, 1909, and his



worthy life and services well entitle him to a tribute in this publication. He was born at Peru, Indiana, on the 21st of December, 1859, and is a son of Gottlieb and Mary (Schmidt) Conradt.

Frederick William Conradt was afforded the advantages of the public schools of his native state and remained at the parental home until he had attained the age of eighteen years when he went to the city of St. Louis, Missouri, where he entered a college of pharmacy, in which he was graduated on the completion of the prescribed course. Thereafter he conducted a drug store in that city until 1891, when he sold the same and came to Peru, Indiana. Three years later he and his brother Albert became associated with their father in the sanitary pottery business at Kokomo, establishing The Great Western Pottery Company of that state, where he remained seven years. He then removed to Tiffin, Ohio, where he assumed charge of a pottery of which his company had become the purchaser. He continued to be actively concerned in the management of this important concern until he was summoned from the scene of life's activities. He gained a high place in the confidence and esteem of the community, where he was known as a loyal and public spirited citizen. He was a stanch Republican in his political proclivities, and was a zealous member of the German Lutheran church.

In the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, on the 21st of December, 1892, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Conradt to Miss Margaret Haugh, who was born in that city, and who is a daughter of Charles and Margaret (Cameron) Haugh. Mrs. Conradt still maintains her home in Tiffin and her honored husband is also survived by one daughter, Mary Josephine, who was born on the 17th of May, 1905.

**JOHN MCCAULEY.**—Among the representative members of the bench and bar of Ohio is numbered Judge McCauley, whose record both in the work of his profession and in judicial office has been marked by distinguished ability and by impregnable integrity and honor. He is a man of fine intellectuality, and one of the strongest and most noteworthy elements in his character has been his inflexible devotion to principle. He has viewed all things in their correct proportions and thus his rulings on the bench have been significantly fair and equitable, few of his decisions having been reversed by higher tribunals. The Judge is a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of the old Buckeye state and this has been his home from the time of his birth to the present. He is one of the best known and most honored citizens of Seneca county and maintains his home in the city of Tiffin.

Judge John McCauley was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, on the 9th of December, 1834, and is a son of Henry and Susan (Kelley) McCauley, both of whom were born and reared in the famous old city of Paisley, Scotland, a land with whose history the family name has been identified for many generations. The marriage of the parents was solemnized in their native land, in 1834 and their bridal tour was virtually that of their emigration to the United States. Soon after their arrival they made their way to Ohio and settled in Columbiana county, where the father

purchased a tract of land and turned his attention to the great basic industry of agriculture. Later he disposed of this property and purchased land in Wood county, which represented the family home for a period of about six years. Removal was then made to Hancock county and there Henry McCauley continued to be identified with agricultural pursuits during the remainder of his active career. He died in that county in 1881, at the age of seventy-seven years. His widow survived him by twelve years and passed the gracious evening of her life in the home of her son, Judge McCauley, in Tiffin, where she was summoned to eternal rest at the venerable age of eighty-seven years.

The early educational advantages of Judge McCauley were limited to the pioneer schools of Wood and Hancock counties and, like many another who has achieved prominence in professional and public life, his early experiences were those of the farm. He attended the common schools during the winter terms until he had attained the age of sixteen years and he then entered an academy in Republic, Seneca county, where he continued his studies for three years and prepared himself for college. At the age of nineteen years Judge McCauley was matriculated in the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, in which institution he was graduated as a member of the class of 1859, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In the meanwhile he taught several terms of school and by this means largely defrayed the expenses of his academic and collegiate courses. On the 1st of September, 1859, he began reading law under the able preceptorship of the late Judge James Pillars, who was one of the most brilliant legists and jurists of northern Ohio. The assiduity and receptiveness of Judge McCauley may be well understood when it is stated that at the end of the year 1860, he was enabled to pass the required examination and secure admission to the bar of his native state. In 1860 he opened an office in Tiffin and here his ability and careful and honorable methods soon gained to him a secure place as one of the leading members of the bar of Seneca county. In 1875 he formed a partnership with Robert G. Pennington and this alliance continued for a period of four years. Later he became associated with Henry J. Weller, under the firm name of McCauley & Weller, and this firm has long maintained a prominent position at the bar of the northern part of Ohio, having been concerned in much important litigation in both the state and federal courts. This partnership has continued to the present time, thus covering a period of twenty-five years.

In the year 1865 Judge McCauley was elected prosecuting attorney of Seneca county, and the best evidence of his able and satisfactory administration of this office was that given by his reelection as his own successor in 1867, so that he continued incumbent of this position for four consecutive years. In 1874 he was elected a delegate to the convention called to revise the state constitution. In 1879 there came further recognition of his sterling character and distinctive eligibility in that he was elected to the bench of the court of common pleas for the Tenth judicial district of Ohio, a district comprising the counties of Wood, Hancock, Hardin and Seneca. Concerning his career from this time for-



ward the following pertinent statements have been written and are well worthy of reproduction in this article: "After three years upon the common pleas bench he resigned the office in order to accept the position of member of the supreme court commission, to which he was appointed by Governor Charles Foster in April, 1883. His duties in this capacity were no less arduous and important than were those of the supreme court judges, and he served faithfully as a member of this commission until his work was finished, in 1885, when he resumed the practice of his profession. His knowledge of law being comprehensive and profound he was well qualified for the important duties which devolved upon him and he was accredited with strict fairness and impartiality in his rulings on the bench. He fully sustained the dignity of the office, permitted no contention or wrangling among the council and dispatched the business of the court with remarkable facility. His appointment to the supreme court commission was generally recognized by members of the bar as one of peculiar fitness and at no time did his course fail to justify the confidence and esteem reposed in him by his professional confreres. His advice has been freely and constantly sought by the younger members of the bar and to them his admonition and counsel have been generously given. He has been remarkably successful in practice, is master of dialectics and thus is powerful in his presentation of cases before court and jury. He marshals his points in evidence with great skill and with marked accuracy applies to them the principles of law bearing upon the subject."

In politics Judge McCauley has ever given a staunch allegiance to the cause of the Democratic party and, while he has sought no public office aside from those directly in line with the work of his profession, he has given efficient service in behalf of his party. He is identified with no religious or fraternal organizations but, as has been said, "He is guided by a high moral sense and by broad humanitarian principles." Understanding fully the well springs of human thought and action, he has naught of intellectual bigotry but is tolerant and kindly in his attitude toward all classes and conditions of men, the while his sympathy has been ever one of helpfulness, shown forth in practical and well directed aid to those in need or distress.

In the year 1864 Judge McCauley was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Lockwood, a daughter of Dr. Alonzo and Merinda (Newcomb) Lockwood, of Fostoria, Ohio. Judge and Mrs. McCauley became the parents of five daughters, all of whom are living except one, who died in infancy.

JESSE N. SELLERS.—Some one has said that "the farmer is king of the earth," and this has never suffered contradiction. Of this "Royal" company, whose independent, wholesome existence has a charm for all right minded men, is Jesse N. Sellers, who owns and operates the old Sellers homestead in Pleasant township and is to be numbered among the progressive and prominent farmers of the locality. He was born January 4, 1859, upon the very homestead upon which he now resides, his parents being Fred and Hannah

(Scheidler) Sellers, who were natives of Germany. The father, who was only three years of age when his parents bade farewell to old ties and sailed across the Atlantic to a land of independence and opportunity, first located with them in Stark county and when grown to manhood's estate, came on to Pleasant township, where he became the possessor of a one hundred and seventy acre farm. This he improved and built upon several different situations before he found the one he considered ideal. The elder Mr. Sellers was a God-fearing man and of the Dunkard faith, taking an active and prominent part in the affairs of the church of that denomination. When it was purposed to build a church he and his son, the subject of the sketch, quarried the stone and hauled the lumber to the chosen site. Jesse, then a lad of fourteen years, hauled one of the first load of rock for the erection of the foundation of this house of worship. Before the completion of the church the Sellers family furnished the barn in which to hold temporary services, and during love feasts were wont to entertain people for several weeks at a time. The father was a Republican, and was well informed upon all those questions which effect good citizenship. He was the friend of education and assisted in the work of building schools. The mother, Hannah Scheidler, was a native of Stark county, a daughter of Jacob Scheidler. The subject is the eighth in order of birth in a family of nine children.

Mr. Sellers received his education in the district schools, and resided with his parents until his marriage in the year 1881. He lived at one time in Sandusky county, cultivating a farm for eighteen months, but was drawn to the old scenes and returned to Pleasant township, where he has ever since made his home. He engages in general farming, having in his possession seventy-eight and one-half acres. In his political faith he is a Republican and his connection with public affairs is represented by a service of three years on the school board. He and his family attend the United Brethren and Dunkard churches.

The wife and helpmeet of Mr. Sellers was previous to her marriage Lydia McCowen, born March 6, 1861, to Daniel and Emma (Palmer) McCowen, natives of Ohio. Coming here at an early day, they took up land and brought it to a state of improvement.

Mr. and Mrs. Sellers are the parents of a family of six children. Maud, the eldest, is the wife of Jesse Roderick, her birth having occurred June 28, 1882, in the city of Cleveland; Charles, who was born September 1, 1886, was educated at Old Fort, taught in the schools of Seneca county for two years and now resides in Cleveland, where he is engaged in the dairy business; Gladys, born January 4, 1890; Harvey F., born January 25, 1895, and educated at Tiffin; Roy J., born May 31, 1897; and Glen, born April 24, 1899, are all at home.

**GEORGE P. KING.**—The homestead of George P. King, consisting of many acres of the choicest quality and adorned with a handsome, modern and commodious residence, unsurpassed by any in Pleasant township, is well known throughout Seneca county, and the name of King is one to which esteem attaches. The family



has been known in Ohio since the subject's grandfather, Jacob King, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1792, and his wife, Catherine Moyer, of Virginia, born in 1797, came to Sandusky county in the year 1832. Jacob King was one of a family of nine children and he had eight children, all of whom are deceased with the exception of Mrs. Thomas Durbin and Mrs. R. S. Leon. In the new location the head of the family bought land and conducted a tavern, in a cabin that had formerly been occupied by the Indians, who had been decidedly troublesome in that section. The maternal grandparents, Greenbury and Marcella Sheets, both of Maryland, the former born January 22, 1803, and the latter in 1811, came to the Buckeye state about the year 1831. The former died in 1854 and the latter in 1877. Mr. King's mother Angeline Sheets, was born in Frederick, Maryland.

Thus Mr. King's parents, Phillip and Angeline (Sheets) King, were natives of Ohio and Maryland, respectively. The mother born July 3, 1826, came to the state when about five years of age. The father was about seven years the elder of his wife, his birth date having been March 20, 1819. The birth of Mr. King occurred September 10, 1851, near the town of Old Fort, and it was upon the farm of his father that he passed his youthful days and attended school. He resided with his parents until his marriage to Flora Keenan, the same being celebrated December 10, 1874. Mrs. King was born April 24, 1854, and is a daughter of Peter and Nancy Keenan, the father born in 1809 and a native of Perry county, Ohio, and the mother, born in 1817, and of Fairfield county, this state. Peter Keenan was the son of James and Catherine (Yost) Keenan, who were old settlers in Wyandot county, later removing to Seneca county, where they lived out the residue of their days. Mrs. King's brother, J. P. Keenan, lives in Pittsburg and a half sister, Mrs. Adaline Doll, resides in Columbus, Ohio.

To Mr. and Mrs. King have been born three children, one dying in infancy. Ralph P., born November 30, 1876, is now located in the state of Washington, where he follows the vocation of a teacher. He received his preliminary education in the district schools and afterward attended Stanford University in California and a school at Lebanon, Ohio, from which institution he received his degree. He has graduated in mining engineering and at the parental home has some collections of quartz. Dorothy E., born July 27, 1884, was educated in the common schools and is at present at home, in Greenspring. She is the wife of W. H. Rule and they have one little daughter, Florence Josephine. The family are of the Reformed faith. The handsome residence is built entirely of hard wood and is the center of a gracious hospitality.

Mr. King is independent in politics, as many of his well informed brethren seem to be, and believes in supporting the best man and the best measures, no matter what party they represent.

HELEN V. MARCHA.—On nothing, in all generations, has Seneca county's strength been more securely founded than on her brave and noble womanhood. In days long past the mothers and wives faced the perils of pioneer life shoulder to shoulder with the

men, and surmounted difficulties which made the burden of Atlas seem light in comparison; when the long lowering Civil war cloud broke at last and plunged this part of Ohio, with the rest of the country, into mourning and devastation, the women bore their lot with fortitude not less in degree than that of the boys who faced the cannon on the field of battle; today Seneca takes the same richly deserved pride in the daughters and grand-daughters of those who have gone before, and esteems them the fairest flower of her later development. A representative member of this fine young womanhood of Seneca county is Helen V. Marcha, who was born April 21, 1888, in Pleasant township, near Old Fort, on land bordering on the Sandusky, her parents being John and Emma (Nichols) Marcha. The birth dates of the parents are August 29, 1862 and July 7, 1862, respectively.

The mother's parents were Robert and Jane (Brandeberry) Nichols, who, to quote from an old chronicle "were considered and received a prize consisting of a cook stove as being the most handsome and finest dancers in or near Tiffin." The grandfather came here from West Virginia, his native state, in the year 1825, when a lad seven years of age, his birth having occurred in 1818. His parents were born in the Old Dominion. At the time of the exodus to Ohio from West Virginia, Robert was suffering from a broken arm, but the plucky little fellow walked almost the entire distance, assisting in driving the cattle. The family located south of Tiffin and secured land upon which they farmed in a crude sort of fashion for a while, but they subsequently removed to Tiffin, and soon winning the confidence of his associates Robert Nichols came to play a prominent part in the affairs of the town. He held the offices of marshal and jailer and at the early age of twenty-five years was elected to the office of deputy sheriff, which he filled in the most capable and acceptable manner. Later he was in the government service and carried the mail from Fremont, to Tiffin, driving a stage coach over the route. He was, however, a mechanic by trade. He divided his time between this and adjoining counties and was widely mourned at the time of his demise, which occurred in the month of October, 1908. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Tiffin.

Miss Helen Marcha's mother, Emma, was the second in order of birth of the children of Robert Nichols and his wife. She was born at Tiffin and received an excellent education, being graduated from the high school of her native place and later from Heidelberg College. She engaged in educational work and she can look back over a gratifying career as a teacher in the schools of Seneca and adjoining counties of six years duration. She was married August 2, 1883, and moved to the farm where the subject was born soon after that happy event. She is a public spirited woman, who, although she is the most faithful of wives and mothers, yet has some interest beyond the narrow confines of the household. She belongs to the Memorial Society of the township and was one of those who instigated the movement which resulted in the erection of a monument to the soldiers.

On the paternal side Miss Marcha is a granddaughter of



Andrew Marcha, a Frenchman. He was a Parisian and spent some years of his life in that interesting city before coming to America, some time previous to the middle of the nineteenth century. He first located in New York, but a little later came on to Stark county and settled on a farm with his parents, John and Catherine Marcha. In his native land John Marcha had been a brewer, but upon coming to America he took up farming and continued his new occupation until the time of his death, which occurred about thirty years ago. John Marcha resided with his parents until about a year previous to the attainment of his majority, and then began upon an independent career in the useful capacity of a thrasher, his services being employed by numerous agriculturists in this vicinity. He had been in Seneca county about three years when he married, the young woman to become his bride being Anna Scheidler, and their union being celebrated April 21, 1861. Her birth date was October 16, 1834, and she was the daughter of Jacob and Agnes Huford of Maryland, good citizens who came to Stark county in the early days and later removed to Pleasant township in this county, where their daughter was reared to womanhood, the Scheidler estate being located near Watson station. To this union were born two children. The elder was John, the father of the subject, and the younger Erve, born October 6, 1872, in this township. The latter is now located in Toledo.

John Marcha is one of the progressive men of the township. He received his educational discipline in the district schools and at Heidelberg College and is now one of the up-to-date exponents of the honorable calling of agriculture. He has had no small or unimportant experience in public life, having been assistant bill clerk of the House of Representatives from this district for about fifteen years. This long term of service speaks highly both of his moral and mental powers. He is a Democrat, giving his heart and hand to the men and measures of that party. He and his wife are the parents of five children. The eldest, Robert, born October 25, 1884, is located in the state capital, Columbus, where he has a position in the state bindery. Hazel, now the wife of Neal Reitsman and residing at West Park, Cleveland, was born October 23, 1885. She is remembered as one of the efficient teachers, having taught for eight years in this and adjoining counties. Miss Marcha was the third child. The two younger children, Honore, born March 20, 1898, and James, born July 24, 1900, are both at home with their parents.

Miss Marcha's grandparents on the Marcha side are among the respected people of Pleasant township. For two or three years after their marriage they resided on rented land, but subsequently purchased land near Old Fort, the tract consisting of about one hundred and sixty acres, a part of this now being in the hands of their son John. About fourteen years ago they removed to Old Fort, where they are held in high regard. They have deep affection for the county which has been the scene of the important events of their lives and those of their children and grandchildren. For years they have kept in touch with county

and township affairs through constant perusal of the *Tiffin Advertiser*, published by E. S. Myers, one of the editors of this volume whose object is the perpetuation of the life histories of the worthy people of this county.

Helen V. Marcha was reared upon her father's homestead and received an excellent education in the schools of Old Fort and in Heidelberg College. After being graduated from these institutions she entered upon a career as a teacher, for which she is eminently well qualified by natural ability and training. Although still young in years, she can look back over a record of six years as an instructor in neighboring schools. It is a matter of regret that with the beginning of the school year of 1910 she transferred the scene of her labors to the Rocky River schools of Cleveland.

Miss Marcha's grandfather Marcha has had numerous interesting adventures, some of these being incident upon his identification with pioneer life. While living in Stark county he frequently carried a bag filled with two bushels of wheat to a mill two and a half miles away, carrying his burden across his shoulders. He was hired by Smith & Miller of Tiffin to teach them how to make beer, and received for divulging the secret of the process the sum of three dollars. Upon one occasion of crossing the ocean (it being his third) he saw a fish called the Mermaid fish, a rarely observed variety. This had a growth of hair upon its head some two feet long. The captain allowed him to look through the glass at this queer creature and also at a whale. But although he had a good view of the former, he could not by a long stretch of imagination see that it resembled a human face. The Mermaid followed the boat for three days. There were eleven hundred people aboard on this voyage, and not one of the number died or was lost in crossing, an unusual record. The voyage took seven weeks.

BURTON W. CROBAUGH.—Prominent among the foremost citizens and ablest business men of Seneca county is Burton W. Crobaugh, of Tiffin, who has been a resident of this city for upwards of thirty-five years, during which time he has been actively identified with its advancement in industrial, financial and social lines. He has gained distinctive recognition as a leader in the establishment of beneficial projects and organizations, his capacity for the successful conduct of large enterprises rendering him an important factor in the upbuilding and betterment of the city and of the county. A son of the late Samuel Crobaugh, he was born November 26, 1856, in Attica, Seneca county, Ohio. Samuel Crobaugh, a native of Seneca county, New York, married Lucy A. Hathaway, who was born and educated in Geauga county, Ohio, and settled in Seneca county, where both spent the remainder of their days.

Making rapid progress in his studies while in the common schools, Burton W. Crobaugh completed the high school course, being graduated with the class of 1872. The following two years he attended the Cleveland Commercial School, at his graduation from that institution being thoroughly equipped for a business

career. He remained in Cleveland as a bookkeeper for a short time, and then located in 1874 in Tiffin. Entering the employ of John M. Naylor, as general salesman and bookkeeper, Mr. Crobaugh performed his duties so well and showed such aptitude for the business that in 1892 he became a partner with his former employer, the firm name being John M. Naylor and Company. In 1898 Mr. Naylor retired from the firm, and the business has since been conducted under its present firm name, Crobaugh & Dahm. This firm carries on the most extensive and lucrative hardware business in northwestern Ohio outside the cities of Cleveland and Toledo, and is one of the longest established in the state. Mr. Crobaugh has occupied his present building since 1874, and is widely known as one of the most prosperous and progressive men of his times.

A man of varied resources, Mr. Crobaugh has been a leading spirit in the inauguration of beneficial enterprises and is officially identified with many of them. He is a stockholder and a director in the Tiffin National Bank, secretary and director of the Citizens' Building and Loan Association, a position that makes him the general manager of the organization; is vice president of the Tiffin Commercial Club; treasurer of the Electric Railway and Power Company, and is actively identified with other enterprises. A natural business man and a promoter, he has contributed in many ways to the betterment of the city, being known as a man who does things rather than as a dreamer.

Mr. Crobaugh married, in 1878, Laura F. Weller, a daughter of John L. and Maria (Metcalf) Weller. She was born and reared in Seneca county, receiving her education in the Tiffin schools. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Crobaugh, namely: Bertha, a graduate of the Tiffin High School, is the wife of George D. Liles, of Youngstown, Ohio; Lucy, who was also graduated from the Tiffin High School; Irene, a graduate of the Ursuline Convent; Burton N., who was graduated from the Tiffin High School with the class of 1910; and Clarence, a pupil in the same school.

Mr. Crobaugh and his family are valued members of Saint Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is an active worker, being a member of its official board and one of its board of trustees. Fraternally Mr. Crobaugh belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In national politics he is a Republican, but in the management of local affairs he casts his ballot in favor of the best men and measures, regardless of party prejudice.

OTIS T. LOCKE.—It is most consonant that in this publication be accorded recognition to this well known and highly esteemed citizen of Seneca county, for he has done much to further the best interests of the community, not only in a personal way, but through the agency of his newspaper enterprises. He is at the present time serving as postmaster of the city of Tiffin and is senior member of the firm of O. T. Locke & Son, publishers of the *Daily Tribune* and *Herald* and the weekly *Tribune* at Tiffin, papers that have conceded standing as among the best of their order in the entire state.



Otis T. Locke was born in Killawog, Broome county, New York, on the 27th of February, 1842, and is a representative of a family, of English origin, that was founded in New England in the early Colonial epoch of our national history. His paternal great-grandfather was a colonel in the British army in the Colonial days. His grandfather, John L., was a member of the patriotic band of fifty men who formed the historic "Boston Tea Party," on the 16th of December, 1773, and who subsequently served as a valiant soldier of the Continental line in the war of the Revolution.

Nathaniel Reed Locke was a native of Vermont, which state he represented as a soldier in the war of 1812, and later he settled in Cortland county, New York. He was a tanner and shoemaker by trade and also became a successful farmer in the old Empire state. His wife's maiden name was Taft. In 1882 they came to Ohio, where they continued to reside until their death.

Otis T. Locke was reared to adult age in his native state and is indebted to the common schools for his early educational training. At the age of eighteen years he came to Ohio and entered upon an apprenticeship to the printer's trade in the office of the *Bucyrus Journal*, at Bucyrus, a paper that was then published by his brother, the late David R. Locke, who attained national fame under the nom de plume of Petroleum V. Nasby and who later became the owner and publisher of the *Toledo Blade*. The subject of this sketch completed his apprenticeship in Bucyrus and in 1863 he entered into partnership with his brother, the late Charles N. Locke, with whom he became associated in the purchase of the *Findlay Jeffersonian*, at Findlay, this state. They continued to publish this paper until 1868, when they, in company with the late William G. Blymer, purchased the *Tiffin Tribune*. With the publication of this paper Otis T. Locke has been identified during the long intervening years—more than forty years. The brothers eventually purchased the interest of Mr. Blymer and the paper was published under the firm name of Locke & Brothers until 1893, when Otis T. Locke and his son John P. purchased the interest in the business held by the widow of Charles N. Locke, since which time the enterprise has been continued under the firm name of O. T. Locke & Son. Since 1898 the subject of this sketch has taken no active part in the editorial and business management of the two papers published by the firm, and his son and partner is the active manager of both these departments.

In politics Mr. Locke has ever given staunch allegiance to the Republican party. He has been active in local affairs of a public order and his papers have ever stood the exponent of progressive policies and high civic ideals. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, the Royal Arcanum and the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics. He has held the office of post-master of Tiffin since 1880.

At Findlay, Ohio, in the year 1866, Mr. Locke was united in marriage to Miss Maria C. Porch, a daughter of Henry and Sallie (Clark) Porch, and they became the parents of three sons and two daughters, of whom Harry David and Burton Parker died in infancy. Miss Carrie M. remains at the parental home; Sallie

P. is the wife of Andrew J. Hazlett, a resident of Buffalo, New York; and John P., is associated with his father as junior member of the firm of O. T. Locke & Son, as already noted.

EDMUND J. ULLRICH, successor to his father, Lewis Ullrich, in the greenhouse business at Tiffin, Ohio, was born in this city September 13, 1877. He received his education in the parochial schools and the Tiffin high school, and at Toledo, Ohio, he took a course in electricity. From his early boyhood he had helped his father in the greenhouse, and after his return from Toledo he went to work for his father and later became a partner in the business. On the death of his father in 1906 he purchased the rest of the business and leased the grounds and is now manager and proprietor of the establishment, which includes the greenhouses at 197 to 201 Sycamore street and the seed store at 177 South Washington street. This greenhouse business was started by Lewis Ullrich nearly forty years ago. Today it is the largest plant of the kind in the state of Ohio, and is known far and near for the excellence of its products, a specialty being made of fine cut flowers and funeral designs. Seventy-five thousand square feet of glass are required as covering for the greenhouses. Having grown up in the business, Edmund J. Ullrich is familiar with every detail from the seed to the marketing of the products, and with progressive and up-to-date methods he is carrying forward the work begun by his successful father and maintaining the high standard long ago established for the Ullrich greenhouses.

Edmund J. Ullrich married Miss Tena Schaal, of Toledo, Ohio, and to them have been given two children, Lewis and Erwin. Mr. Ullrich's mother before marriage was Miss Minnie Deimer. The Ullrich family are identified with the St. Joseph Catholic church, and Mr. Ullrich has membership with the Knights of Columbus also in the Elks Lodge. He belongs to the Commercial Club and is an associate member of the G. A. R.

LOUIS W. YINGLING is one of Pleasant township's successful agriculturists, and he has achieved his success through his own unaided efforts, his seventy-five acre farm purchased in 1895 being a highly cultivated and improved piece of property. He is a Marylander, having been born in Frederick county, that state, on the second day of February, 1862. His parents, John T. and Anna (Wright) Yingling, were of German extraction.

Mr. Yingling spent his boyhood and early youth under the parental roof, attended the common schools, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He was the second in order of birth of a family of twelve children, the others being Maggie (deceased), John Thomas, Fannie, Mary, Julia, Joseph, Anna, Vincent, Augustus, Rose and Charles. He did not set forth to make his fortunes as an independent factor in the world of affairs until he had reached the age of twenty-four years. About that time he came to Watson Station and for about eight months worked for John Holtz, subsequently transferring the scene of his activities to southern Ohio, over which territory he canvassed for a company

in Lancaster. After a year and a half he went to his native state, Maryland, and having remained there for a short time he came to Greenspring, where his services were engaged by Alfred Birdsall, a farmer, for a period of about eighteen months.

On Christmas eve, in the year 1889, Mr. Yingling established a household of his own by his marriage to Ella Brenneman, born August 3, 1866, in Reed township, Seneca county, her parents being Jacob and Susan Brenneman, natives of Pennsylvania. Their identification with the Buckeye state dates from about the year 1850, Ashland county having been that part of the state in which they first located. Shortly after becoming a married man Mr. Yingling took up the occupation of farming on rented land near Watson Station, but subsequently moved to his present excellent farm of seventy-five acres, which is well developed and adorned with a fine home. He is distinctly a self made man, for he started out without anything and has achieved prosperity by the exercise of good judgment, industry and thrift.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Yingling have been born three children. Hallie C., was born September 20, 1890, and was educated in Heidelberg College in Tiffin, being graduated from that institution of learning with the class of 1910. He is now located in Akron, where he has a position with the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company. Lawrence H. was born January 10, 1899, and is now receiving his education, as is Robert Wright, born September 9, 1900.

Mrs. Yingling received her early education in the schools near Watson Station and subsequently attended Heidelberg College. She can look back upon a good record of three years as an instructor in the schools of Pleasant Center and Bunker Hill of Pleasant township. Mr. and Mrs. Yingling are members of the Evangelical church at Old Fort.

**FRANK FISHER.**—Engaged in agricultural pursuits on the old homestead farm on which he was born and reared to maturity, Frank Fisher is a scion of a fine old German family early founded in Seneca county, his paternal grandparents having emigrated to America from Germany. He was born on the 15th of April, 1864, and is a son of Jacob and Leah (Gamber) Fisher, the former of whom is a native of Germany and the latter of whom was born in Seneca county. Jacob Fisher was one of the county's earliest pioneers, having come to this section from Germany with his mother when he was but three years of age. His father had preceded the family to America and had settled upon a tract of wild land in Seneca county. As the child Jacob grew in years and strength, he engaged in chopping wood, making staves and clearing away the forest for agricultural purposes. He had no educational advantages but being a naturally intelligent lad he became a man of broad general information and he has ever been a liberal and public spirited citizen. He married Leah Gamber, and they became the parents of the following named children: Frank, Mary, William, Sarah, Levi (deceased), Christian and Henry. Leah (Gamber) Fisher was a representative of the fine old Pennsyl-







H. Rust

vania family of that name, her parents having been natives of the old Keystone state of the Union. She was summoned to the life eternal on the 3d of September, 1890, at the age of sixty-three years. Since the death of his cherished and devoted wife, Jacob Fisher has maintained his home with his son Frank, the immediate subject of this review. Though he has now attained to venerable age his physical and mental faculties remain unmarred and he labors continually. He is proud of the fact that he shocked twenty acres of oats this season, alone. He insists that he cannot give up to the luxuries of life, as the lesson of hard work learned when a boy stays with him and never a day passes but that he does his share of the chores and other work of the farm.

Frank Fisher early became associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm and his early educational advantages were those afforded in the district schools of his native county of Seneca, which he attended during the winter seasons until seventeen years of age, devoting his energies to seeding, planting and harvesting during the summers. After his marriage, in 1885, he resided in Tiffin for two years and thereafter he was engaged in railroad work for eighteen years at Siam, Ohio. In 1905, however, he severed his connections with city life and returned to the old homestead, where he has since been most successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with various social organizations of representative character.

On the 15th of April, 1885, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fisher to Miss Alice Nicholas, the ceremony being performed at Tiffin. Concerning her family history full data is given in the sketch dedicated to Helen V. Marcha, on other pages of this work, so that further information is not deemed necessary in this connection. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have no children of their own but they adopted and raised an orphan boy, Frank G., having taken him into their home when he was but five years old. He was afforded a liberal education and is now in the United States Navy, on the battleship Minnesota. Mrs. Fisher is a valued and appreciative member of Rebekah Lodge, No. 11, at Attica, Ohio. She has passed through all the chairs of the lodge and is now president of the Twenty-first district convention of the same. She is also affiliated with the Daughters of the American Revolution and is a member of the Relief Corps. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are popular factors in connection with the best social activities of their home county and their attractive residence, located at what is known as "Fisher's Corner," in Reed township, is recognized as a center of refined and gracious hospitality.

REV. HERMAN RUST, D. D.—Pure, constant and noble was the spiritual flame that burned in and illumined the mortal tenement of the honored subject of this memoir, who was a distinguished figure in connection with the religious and educational work in Seneca county for many years and whose deep appreciation of his stewardship was on a parity with the distinctive ability that was his. Our later generations may well pause to contemplate his



exalted and useful life and to pay anew a tribute to his memory, for he wrote his name large upon the history of the day. True biography is a more noble publication than mere fulsome eulogy. The historic spirit, faithful to the record; the discerning judgment, unmoved by prejudice and uncolored by enthusiasm, are as essential in giving the life of the individual person as in writing the history of a people. The world today is what the leading men of the last generation have made it. From the past has come the legacy of the present. Art, science, statesmanship and government are accumulations. They constitute an inheritance upon which the present generations have entered, and the advantages secured from so vast a bequeathment depends entirely upon the fidelity with which is conducted the study of the lives of those who so transmitted the legacy. To such a careful study are the life services of Dr. Rust eminently entitled, and in a publication such as the one at hand it is gratifying to be able to present even a memoir of the abridged type which the province of the work necessarily prescribes.

Rev. Herman Rust, D. D., the son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Borekhart) Rust, was born on the 8th of December, 1816, in Bremen, Germany. Deeply religious by nature, he united with the Reformed church in Bremen early in his youth. As a lad of about ten years he received his call to the gospel ministry while listening to a sermon by the great German pulpit orator, Dr. Frederick W. Krummacher, on Isaiah lx, 1: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come." Intending to enter the foreign missionary field, with a companion he walked from Bremen to Hamburg to take the necessary examination, but he was compelled to abandon his purpose because there were more applicants than the Wichern Institute could supply with fields.

In June, 1841, he came to America, locating in New York city, where he attended the Reformed church of which Rev. J. C. Guldin was pastor. Through the influence of Mr. Guldin he was induced in 1846 to go to Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, to complete his preparation for the Christian ministry. Dr. John Williamson Nevin and Dr. Philip Schaff, both men of powerful intellect and vast erudition, were the leading professors in Mercersburg College in those years. Dr. Nevin gave the young student a home in his own house and it was there that he met the Hon James A. Buchanan, afterward president of the United States and at that time a member of the board of trustees of Mercersburg College. Dr. Nevin and Mr. Buchanan were intimate friends, and thus the young student cast his first ballot as an American citizen for James Buchanan. At the next presidential election he voted for Abraham Lincoln.

He was ordained a minister of the gospel in 1850, by Lebanon classis, at Jonestown, near the city of Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He became pastor of the Millersburg charge, near Lancaster, that state. One year later, in response to a call from the board of missions, he became pastor of the First Reformed church in Cincinnati, Ohio, succeeding the Rev. Dr. E. V. Gerhart, who had been elected the first president of Heidelberg College, in Tiffin. Dr.

Rust was soon engaged in the erection of a new church edifice, and sought aid for his mission by personal canvass among members of the Reformed church in six different states. While pastor in Cincinnati he also organized an English Reformed congregation, known as the Church of the Cross, and also the German Salem Reformed congregation on Sycamore street, near the corner of Liberty. In 1862, under his direction, the Reformed congregation (German) of Covington, Kentucky, was organized and the late Rev. Jean Grob, who was followed by Rev. Dr. F. R. Schwedes, became the first pastors. Dr. Rust labored for twelve years in Cincinnati, and during that time received calls to churches in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Baltimore, Maryland, and San Francisco, California, all of which he declined. He further manifested his zeal for the extension of Christ's kingdom by directly aiding not less than nine young men to enter the gospel ministry.

During the Civil war Dr. Rust drilled recruits in Cincinnati for the Union Army, and took part in municipal affairs wherever opportunity and duty called him. In that city he also witnessed a number of epidemics of cholera and smallpox. He remained bravely at his post of duty, visiting the sick, comforting the dying, burying the dead, and yet, despite all his exposure, he never once suffered an attack of either one of those dreadful diseases. He always firmly believed that his protection came directly from God.

In the year 1861 Dr. Rust was chairman of a committee appointed by the Ohio synod to secure Rev. Dr. J. H. A. Ebrard for the German professorship in Heidelberg College and Theological Seminary. Dr. Ebrard declined the call and then the Ohio synod in Dayton, on May 21, 1862, elected Rev. Herman Rust to the chair of German in Heidelberg College. The call was accepted, and Professor Rust moved to Tiffin with his family in November, 1862. In January, 1868, Dr. Kieffer resigned as president of the theological seminary, and by appointment of the board of trustees Professor Herman Rust served in the same capacity from February 1st of that year until the next annual meeting of the Ohio synod. Dr. Rust came to Heidelberg College as the professor of history and German language. Subsequently he was made professor of exegetic and historical theology in Heidelberg Theological Seminary, and ceased altogether from language work in the college. In 1901, in consequence of advancing years, he was appointed professor emeritus of hermeneutics and instructor in the Heidelberg Catechism. In 1872 Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

In addition to his duties as professor Dr. Rust was the efficient pastor of the Second Reformed congregation in Tiffin for over twenty-one years. During his administration the present beautiful church building was erected at the corner of Madison and Jefferson streets.

He was prominently identified with Tiffin's industrial affairs, and was one of the city's most highly respected citizens. For a number of years he served as a member of the board of education, and was honored with the presidency of that board. He retained his strong mentality to the end of his earthly life, and always mani-

fested as much interest in current events as do much younger men.

In October, 1855, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Rust to Miss Elizabeth Giesy, the youngest daughter of John Ulrich and Magdalene Giesy, of Lancaster, Ohio, and in every sense of the word she proved to be a faithful companion in his arduous ministry. She was devoted to her home and to the proper rearing of her children. The students also in college and seminary who learned to know her, always found in her a sympathetic, helpful and motherly counselor. Four children are the fruit of this marriage: Rev. John B. Rust, Ph. D., Miss Mary C. Rust, Herman S. Rust and Rev. Eugene C. Rust. Mrs. Rust was summoned to the life eternal on April 22, 1902, at the age of about eighty years.

As the sun sank in the west on Tuesday, August 8th, 1905, Dr. Herman Rust, at the age of eighty-eight years and eight months, entered into eternal rest. The funeral took place on Friday afternoon, August 11, 1905, and the services were held in the Second Reformed church. The following ministers were present at the funeral: Rev. B. S. Stern, D. D.; Rev. D. A. Winter; Rev. F. W. Horstmeier, D. D.; Rev. D. R. Raiser, pastor of the Second church; Rev. Dr. A. S. Zerbe; Rev. L. B. C. Lahr, D. D.; Rev. C. M. Schaaff, D. D.; Rev. Dr. C. E. Miller; Rev. L. C. Martin; Rev. J. P. Stahl, D. D.; Rev. J. I. Swander, D. D.; Rev. C. W. Good; Rev. F. W. Hoffman; Rev. B. H. Roth; Rev. J. D. Buhrer; Rev. A. E. Baichley, D. D.; Rev. F. E. Zechiel; Rev. F. W. Kennedy and Rev. Jacob Ihle. In his sermon at the funeral Dr. David Van Horne, president of Heidelberg Theological Seminary, said: "His death was a peaceful and fitting climax to a long and useful career. It is difficult to estimate aright the influence of such a long and eventful life as that of Dr. Herman Rust. In it we see the sterling qualities of the Germanic character. He could not be swerved from the line of duty as he understood it. He was a successful man in the proper sense of the term, a plain practical man, a sound thinker, leaving behind him a wholesome influence in the church, the school and the community. His grasp upon church history, that great record of past ages, was comprehensive and sure, and the hundreds of students who have passed under his instruction will bear witness to the thoroughness of his knowledge on this subject. He was ever genial and companionable, a friend and brother indeed, and has left behind him gifts to benevolence that testify to his hearty interest in the cause and kingdom of the Redeemer. He excelled most, perhaps, as an evangelical preacher of the gospel in the German language. He was always scriptural, devout and energetic, fluent, impressive and free in the pulpit. All his powers were subsidized in his preaching. His countenance was animated, his voice clear, strong and sonorous, and often, with tears in his own eyes, he awakened responsive emotions in his hearers. He loved to preach, and when the period of retirement drew near he regretted most of all that he could no longer speak to the people on the momentous theme of 'Sin and Grace,' and salvation through a divine Redeemer. With him the gospel trumpet never gave an uncertain sound, and it is a great satisfaction



now, since he has finished his earthly course, that he ever fought the good fight and kept the faith, and that henceforth there is laid up for him, and for all the faithful in Christ, a crown of eternal life."

REV. JOHN BENJAMIN RUST, PH. D., the oldest son of Herman Rust, was born on the 5th of September, 1856, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was named after his maternal grandfather, John Ulrich Giesy and Rev. Dr. Benjamin Bausman, oriental traveler and for many years pastor of Reformed churches in Reading, Pennsylvania. Dr. Herman Rust and Dr. Bausman were roommates at Mercersburg College and were lifelong friends.

Dr. John B. Rust attended the public schools in Cincinnati and Tiffin, Ohio, and entered Heidelberg College before completing the course in the Tiffin high school. He was graduated with the class of 1877, in the classical course, and three years later his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. In the year 1879 he was graduated in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary, located in Tiffin for more than fifty years. Rev. J. J. Gruber was the only member of the class. The graduating exercises were the first of the kind in the history of the seminary, and were held in the First Reformed church. The subject of this sketch became pastor of the Waynesburg charge, in Stark county, Ohio, in the winter of 1879-80, making his home in the village of Waynesburg, twelve miles southeast of Canton, on the Steubenville road. In May, 1880, at the annual meeting of St. John's Classis, in Apple Creek, Wayne county, Ohio, he was licensed to preach the gospel, and a few weeks later he was ordained by a committee of that Classis in Salem's Reformed church, near Mapleton, Stark county, Ohio. The Waynesburg charge consisted of three churches—Salem's church, situated in the country, about six miles from Waynesburg; St. Paul's church, in Waynesburg; and the Reformed church at Mineral Point, Tuscarawas county, Ohio. In the spring of 1886, he received and accepted a call from Jerusalem's German Reformed congregation in Canton, Ohio, numbering eight hundred communicants. In the autumn of 1890 he became pastor of the Reformed church in New Philadelphia, Ohio, numbering nearly four hundred communicants. During his pastorate there a new edifice was built, at a total cost of twenty thousand dollars, and a fresh impetus for further growth was given the congregation. After a pastorate of nearly seven years in New Philadelphia, in response to a call from the Robertsville charge in Stark county, he moved to Malvern, Ohio, into the territory in which he had begun his ministry. Here he completed the post-graduate course in philosophy, which he had pursued for six years in connection with his pastoral labors in New Philadelphia, and in June, 1897, he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Wooster University. The Robertsville pastorate continued for only one year and a half. The increasing age of his parents made it necessary for him to return to Tiffin that he might aid his sister, Miss Mary C. Rust, in caring for and waiting upon them in their declining years. Soon after locating in Tiffin he became pastor of the Bascom charge,

which he served for nearly nine years. During this time the charge was strengthened by the addition of a third congregation, which was organized with over one hundred charter members, and built a beautiful brick church, at a cost of ten thousand dollars, in the village of McCutcheonville. He was the first pastor of this congregation and served in that capacity for three years—until the close of his pastoral relations with the Bascom charge, to which Trinity Reformed church of McCutcheonville is attached. For a year or more, at this writing, he has had the pastoral care of the Reformed church in Findlay, Ohio, under the auspices of Heidelberg Classis. Throughout his ministry, save in the Bascom charge, he has served German-English charges and churches.

Dr. John B. Rust, like his father before him, has been and still is a frequent contributor to church periodicals and papers. He has been almost a lifelong student of music, and not only in bygone years played the pipe organ in church but has also written upon musical subjects, in the manner of review and criticism, in addition to essays and papers upon theological, philosophical and ethical subjects. Though burdened to some extent with the responsibility of business interests, and devoted to books and music, especially to the playing of the piano and violin, he nevertheless, in his own thought and purposes, subordinates every other pursuit and enjoyment to that supreme calling and mission of his life, namely, the preaching of the gospel and the extension, in company with others, of the kingdom of Christ.

OSCAR H. SHRIVER.—Seneca county enjoys high prestige among the counties of the Buckeye state, and nothing contributes more materially to this than the agricultural element. Among the most progressive of the county's farmers and stock raisers is Oscar H. Shriver, who resides on what is known as the old Myers homestead, his residence being situated on the line between Seneca county and Sandusky county. Born November 3, 1866, in Pleasant township, he is the son of James and Mary (Cramer) Shriver, natives of Pennsylvania and Fredericktown, Maryland, respectively. The father came to the state in youth and located with his parents on the above mentioned homestead, this being in the early '30s. The father's birth date was March 7, 1832, and his parents were Christ and Elizabeth Shriver. The mother of the subject whose maiden name was Mary Cramer, was born in July, 1830, and came here with her parents, Christ and Catherine (Criger) Cramer, of Maryland, when still in infancy. They took up their residence here on the farm now owned by John Holtz, on the Portland road, and it was there that the birth of Mr. Shriver occurred. Mr. Shriver was one of six children, he being the fourth in order of birth, and the other members of the family being: Catherine, Luther, Asa, Annie and Mary.

The subject was reared upon his father's farm, receiving his education in the district school and finding much for his hands to do in assisting in the manifold tasks to be encountered upon the farm. Under the tutelage of his father he was introduced to the various departments of agriculture and even arrived at a suffi-

ciently early date to assist in clearing and developing some of his father's land. After his marriage, April 10, 1890, at the Presbyterian parsonage in Tiffin, Ohio, Mr. Shriver worked by the day for John Holtz, continuing thus engaged for three years. Later they moved to the Huss farm, where they remained for two years and then took up their abode upon the Scott Holtz farm, which they operated for eight years. After these several changes they located upon eighty acres west of Greenspring, where they have ever since resided and where Mr. Shriver conducts operations in mixed farming and stock raising.

Although of Democratic inclinations in every sense of the word he is sufficiently independent to believe that the best man and the best measure should receive the support of the voter, irrespective of party and partisanship. He and his family are connected with the Methodist Episcopal church.

The subject was married, April 10, 1890, to Catherine A. White, born December 3, 1869, in Scipio township, her parents being Jacob R. and Adda M. (Shadler) White, natives of the Keystone state. The removal of the White family to Ohio occurred when the father was a youth about eighteen years of age. The date of the mother's birth was January 28, 1848, and that of the father May 23, 1847. The wife of the subject at seven years of age went to live with Jacob and Susan Holtz, parents of John Holtz, and she remained with them for about eleven years. Later she went to keep house for Mrs. John Holtz, remaining in this household for about five years and it was in the meantime that she married. After their union, as previously mentioned, Mr. Shriver for three years worked for Mr. Holtz.

Mrs. Shriver's mother was a sister of Mrs. Sam Westerhouse of Adams township, one of Seneca county's worthy citizens, whose maiden name was Emma R. Shadler. She was born March 13, 1852, and was married July 2, 1871. Mr. and Mrs. Westhouse became the parents of seven children, some of whom have played a prominent and estimable part in the life of the community. Nora, born September 3, 1872, became the wife of Charles H. Riffel, the son of Samuel and Mary (Mayhew) Riffel, his birth date being March 20, 1874. Born in Maryland, he came to Ohio with his parents, locating first in Dayton and then in Xenia, where the father conducted a tinshop in the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans Home. The family removed to Greenspring about the year 1893, the father engaging in the same occupation, although in a private capacity. Following their marriage on July 2, 1896, Mr. and Mrs. Riffel went to Gibsonburg, where they resided for one year, then going to Republic, where for one year the husband was employed in the hardware store of Wyant & Hillsinger. He was stricken with cerebro-spinal meningitis and was cut off by the hand of death in the prime of his manhood. Left a widow with a little son, Clarence S., born July 23, 1898, Mrs. Riffel took up the career of a professional nurse, continuing this for several years. For the past few years she and her son have resided with her parents. She is one of Seneca county's brave and devoted women, her relations as mother and daughter being unselfish and gracious.



She is a member of the Evangelical church and acts as choir director in the Sunday School. She has a beautiful sunny nature and is beloved by all who know her. Charles H. Riffel was a most estimable citizen, father and neighbor. He stood very high in his community.

JEREMIAH O'CONNOR, who owns and occupies a modern frame residence at 53 Clay street, Tiffin, Ohio, has been a resident of this city from his childhood and is as popular here as he is well known.

Mr. O'Connor was born in Ireland, April 10, 1850, a son of Thomas and Mary (McGraw) O'Connor, but he has never known any other home than an American one, as at the age of nine months he was brought by his parents from the "Emerald Isle" to the United States. They settled at Tiffin, Ohio, in the spring of 1851, which was henceforth the family home. Thomas O'Connor was an educated man, and for years held a responsible position here in railroad construction work, having under his charge a number of men. As a boy Jeremiah O'Connor's educational advantages were limited to the country schools; but after he attained his majority he attended night school and further equipped himself to be able to cope with the problems and emergencies that confront the man of varied interests and constant contact with the business world. At the age of twenty-two, in 1877, he accepted a position as traveling salesman, and in this line of work soon proved himself a success. A man of fine personal appearance, pleasing manner, keen insight into human nature, quick and shrewd, he possesses the qualities of the first class salesman. These qualities developed as he went out on the road. He has represented various lines of goods, chiefly patents, and with the passing years has made numerous personal investments that have netted him handsome returns. He has large western interests, including lands, mining and banking stocks.

Mr. O'Connor married Miss Helen Gosling of Wellington, Ohio, and while they have never had any children of their own they have reared two children. He and his wife are members of St. Mary's Catholic church. Politically he has always voted with the Democratic party, but has never been active in politics.

ANDREW S. BAKER.—A man of sterling worth and integrity, Andrew S. Baker, late of Tiffin, Ohio, was for many years associated with the best interests of the city, his high principles and manly virtues rendering him an esteemed and valued citizen. He was born, January 4, 1841, in Sandusky, Erie county, and died November 21, 1907, his body being laid to rest in the Castalia Cemetery. His parents, Shepard and Elizabeth (Linebaugh) Baker, were pioneer settlers of Erie county, and there spent the greater part of their lives, living in comfort on the farm which they improved.

Brought up on the homestead, Andrew S. Baker acquired his education in the common schools, in the meantime becoming familiar with farm work. On November 29, 1861, inspired by

patriotic ardor, he enlisted in Company H, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served several months, being discharged August 5, 1862, on account of physical disability. Soon after his return to the parental roof, Mr. Baker began life as a sailor on the Great Lakes, continuing before the mast for a while. Subsequently forming a partnership with William Robinson, he was engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business in Sandusky, and for a number of years conducted a successful mercantile trade. He afterwards became one of the founders of the Nost Spice Company, of Toledo, Ohio, and was salesman for the company until it was sold to Arbuckle & Company, the transfer of business being made in 1898.

The home of Mr. Baker was for three years after his marriage in Castalia, Erie county, but in 1867 he removed to Sandusky, where he lived until 1882, when he became a resident of Tiffin. He was here employed as an agent for various products on the market, building up an extensive and substantial business, which he conducted until his death.

Mr. Baker married, January 14, 1864, Martha E. Wilson, who was born in Castalia, Ohio, January 19, 1846, a daughter of John A. Wilson, who was born in New York state and came to Ohio when young with his parents, John and Mary Wilson. Her father married Elizabeth Young, a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Baugh) Young, and granddaughter of Governor Baugh, one of the early governors of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Baker became the parents of one child, Minnie J., born September 6, 1870, and who now lives with her widowed mother in their handsome residence on Monumental Square. Mr. Baker was a member of the Church of Christ, towards its support being a liberal contributor. He was a Republican in politics and a member of Leander Post, No. 80, G. A. R. of Tiffin.

WILLIAM L. HERTZER.—A man of pronounced business acumen, earnest in his endeavors and strong in his convictions, William L. Hertzer is intimately associated with the development and advancement of the financial prosperity of Seneca county, and as cashier of the Tiffin National Bank he is widely known and highly respected. Studious, persevering and ambitious as a youth, he was a keen observer of men and events, letting no opportunity for advancement escape his notice, making in early life such good use of his advantages that he made steady progress along the pathway of achievements, and through his own earnest efforts has risen from a poor boy to a position of note among the best business men and citizens of Tiffin. A son of G. F. Hertzer, he was born October 27, 1860, at Greenspring, Seneca county, coming of excellent German lineage.

Born, bred and educated in Germany, G. F. Hertzer emigrated to the United States in 1856, hoping in this land of bright promise to attain a competency. Coming directly to Ohio, he located in Greenspring, where he followed his trade of a merchant tailor, building up a good patronage. He is now living on South Green field street, Tiffin. He is well known as a member of the Ancient

Free and Accepted Order of Masons; is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and as a member of the Ancient United Order of Druids. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Rauch, seven children were born, six of whom are now, in 1910, living.

Coming with his parents to Tiffin when young, William L. Hertzner attended first the graded schools, afterwards studying for a year in the Tiffin high school. Working afterwards with his father, he learned the trade of a tailor, but not finding the occupation congenial to his tastes he entered the post office as an employee and served in various capacities under Levi Werick, remaining in the office six years, the last four years serving as assistant postmaster. In 1882 Mr. Hertzner became collector for the Tiffin National Bank, and subsequently served the institution in different grades until 1902, when he accepted his present position as cashier of the bank. Careful and conservative in his business methods, he has gained the confidence not only of his employers but of his fellow associates and of the general public.

This banking institution was organized in March, 1865, as the National Exchange Bank, and continued under its original charter for twenty years, when, in March, 1885, it was reorganized under the name of the Tiffin National Bank. It has a capital stock of \$250,000, and a surplus of \$150,000, being in point of capital, deposits and surplus the largest and strongest of any similar institution in Seneca county or in adjoining counties. The bank officers for 1910 include John M. Naylor, president; W. L. Hertzner, cashier; E. B. Naylor, assistant cashier; and L. H. Smith, auditor; while the directors are J. M. Naylor, George D. Loomis, E. Carpenter, B. W. Crobaugh, and W. L. Hertzner. The Bank's statement for March 29, 1910, is as follows:

Loans -----	\$1,352,217.66
United States Bonds -----	251,000.00
City and County Bonds -----	166,400.00
Banking Houses -----	16,000.00
Cash and due from other banks -----	451,915.08
Liabilities	
Capital -----	\$ 250,000.00
Surplus -----	50,000.00
Profits -----	115,709.26
Circulation -----	250,000.00
Deposits -----	1,571,823.48
Total -----	\$2,237,532.74

Mr. Hertzner is also financially interested in other enterprises of note, being the treasurer, a stockholder, a director and a member of the board of managers of the National Machinery Company; a director and the treasurer of the Citizens' Building and Loan Association; and secretary of the Green Lawn Cemetery Association. In politics he is a staunch Republican, and has represented



his ward in the City Council and has served as a member of the Tiffin Board of Education. He is a member and a past noble grand of Seneca Lodge, No. 35, I. O. O. F., and a member and a trustee of the National Union. Religiously he and his family are worthy members of the Lutheran church.

Mr. Hertzner married, April 25, 1889, Emma Geyer, a daughter of Charles and Ida (Kaessman) Geyer, of Tiffin, and to them four children have been born, namely: Carl G., born February 15, 1890, completed his studies in the Tiffin high school, and is now in the employ of the Webster Electric Company as a machinist; Robert W., born May 14, 1894, is attending the high school; John S., born November 27, 1901, and Lucille Cornelia, born July 5, 1906.

GEORGE J. RING.—An honored citizen of Republic, Seneca county, Ohio, is George J. Ring, who has gained prestige as an able business man and whose loyalty and public spirit have been of the most insistent order. He was born in Springfield, Illinois, on the 11th of February, 1851, and is a son of James M. and Eliza (Armstrong) Ring, the former of whom was born in Ireland and the latter at Canada. James M. Ring emigrated to America about the year 1821, and after a short sojourn in Canada he removed to Springfield, Illinois, where he was engaged in railroad construction work. His marriage to Miss Eliza Armstrong was solemnized at Ottawa, Canada, and when George J. was a mere infant the family moved to New York, where Mr. Ring was identified with the general merchandise business in the capacity of a commercial merchant. Mr. and Mrs. Ring became the parents of six children, and of this number four are now living. The father was summoned to the life eternal in 1871 and the mother passed away in 1876.

George J. Ring was educated in the public schools of Illinois and New York and in 1873 he came to Ohio, where he entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, that road being then in process of construction. He continued to be identified with railroad work for about one year, at the expiration of which he turned his attention to saw milling, in which line of enterprise he was successfully engaged for fifteen years. Since his marriage, in 1906, to Mrs. Rogers, Mr. Ring has been running a boarding house in Republic. This establishment is finely equipped with all modern conveniences, is immaculately clean and the quality of food set before the guests would please the most exacting of epicures. In politics Mr. Ring accords a stanch allegiance to the principles and policies of the Republican party and though he does not take an active interest in political affairs he is ever alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with all measures projected for the good of the community. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

On the 5th of August, 1906, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Ring to Mrs. Elsie M. (Way) Rogers, who was born on the 17th of February, 1864, the place of her birth being Republic. She is a daughter of Charles A. and Mary E. (Platt) Way, the

former of whom was born in New York and the latter of whom was a native of Scipio township. Mr. Way was born on the 21st of April, 1833, and Mrs. Way, on the 21st of April, 1839. Asa Way, father of Charles A. Way, was a loyal and faithful soldier in the Civil war. He was captain of Company G, Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and he served from 1863 until the close of the war. Prior to enlisting in the Union army Captain Way was an attorney, residing on a farm near Republic. For a number of years he was engaged in the active practice of his profession at Republic and he succeeded in building up a large and lucrative clientage. Charles A. Way resided at the parental home until his marriage, April 11, 1858, after which he was engaged in agricultural pursuits for a time on his father's farm. He then engaged in saw milling and in engineering, following the same with marked success until the outbreak of the Civil war. He enlisted under his father in Company G, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1863. He was a gallant soldier and was promoted to the rank of sergeant. After the war he located on a farm in South Dakota, the same being a claim given him by the government in return for military service. He continued to reside in South Dakota for a period of eight years, at the expiration of which he returned to Ohio and established his home in Republic. He and his wife became the parents of six children, Carlotta, born July 3, 1859, became the wife of Warren Hall, of Chicago Junction, and she died in 1898; Charles A., Jr., born March 13, 1861, resides in Pensacola, Florida; Elsie is the wife of him whose name initiates this review; Gertrude, born March 21, 1875, is the wife of D. McMahon, of Tiffin; Edson P., born November 21, 1877, resides in Florida; and Frank, born on the 20th of December, 1879, maintains his home in Tiffin. Elsie Way first married Aldin Rogers, who was born on the 4th of August, 1841, a son of O. Perry and Sallie (Shaw) Rogers, natives of New York. Aldin Rogers was summoned to the life eternal in January, 1900, being survived by four children, Helen, the wife of Mat Freedman, of Tiffin, Ohio; Pearl, married Christ Diller, of Wakersville, Michigan; Lloyd L., resides in Tiffin; and Florence remains with her mother. Another child, Roy, was accidentally drowned in September, 1900. All the children have received good educational advantages, all but the youngest being graduated in the Republic high school. After the death of her first husband Mrs. Ring supported her family, with the aid of her son, until her marriage, in 1906, to Mr. Ring, as already noted. Mrs. Ring was educated in the Republic high school. She is a member of the Daughters of Rebekah, in which order she has served as secretary for two terms; and she is also affiliated with the Women's Relief Corps and the Good Templars. She is a woman of most gracious personality and she and her husband have a host of loyal friends in Republic. Mrs. Mary E. Way is still living and she makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Ring. She has in her possession a very old book, a "New Testament," printed in 1808, and she has a table, which purports to be of Divine authority and which is supposed to govern marriage relations. It reads: "A table of kindred and affinity, wherein

whosoever are related are forbidden in scripture to marry together." Among the many prohibitions are the following, A man cannot marry his brother's wife, or his wife's sister, or his step-daughter, etc.

ALEXANDER MCCARTAN has been identified with the business activities of Tiffin, Ohio, ever since he became a resident of this country, and has worked his way upward from a clerk to a partnership in one of the leading establishments in the city.

Mr. McCartan was born in Sunderland, England, a son of Dennis and Mary A. (Quinn) McCartan, both natives of county Down, Ireland. At the age of twenty, ambitious to have the benefit of advantages enjoyed in America, where some of his relatives had already established themselves, young McCartan left the old home and its associations and joined his uncle at Tiffin, Ohio. He clerked in his uncle's store here until after his uncle's death, and early acquired a knowledge of American methods of doing business which made him of value to his aunt after her husband's death. He continued to clerk for her until finally, in connection with his brother Bearnard and Cornnell Haughey, he was a partner in the purchase of the stock and building. Subsequently they bought the adjoining building, in which they have a meat market, he having charge of the grocery and his partners of the market. And they have since opened up and are now conducting a branch meat market on Six's corner.

Mr. McCartan has a wife and two sons, Alexander Joseph and Daniel B. Mrs. McCartan, formerly Miss Anna Donahoe, is a native of Missouri and a woman of many excellent qualities which make her popular with her large circle of friends. She and Mr. McCartan are members of St. Mary's Catholic church, and he is also a member of the Knights of Columbus, having taken the fourth degree. His time and attention are wholly devoted to his own personal business affairs.

HENRY J. WELLER.—For the high rank of its bench and bar Ohio has ever been distinguished, and it is gratifying to note that in no section of the commonwealth has the standard been lowered in any epoch in its history. To Mr. Weller, who is junior member of the firm of McCauley & Weller, of Tiffin, reference may be made with utmost propriety by reason of his being one of the able and representative members of the bar of the state and that he is a native son of Seneca county lends significance to the prestige which he has here attained. He has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession in Tiffin for nearly thirty years, has been concerned in much important litigation and is known to be thoroughly informed in the science of jurisprudence—an able attorney and a safe and duly conservative counselor—while his personal integrity and honesty of purpose have begotten objective confidence and esteem of no equivocal order.

Henry J. Weller was born in Thompson township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 21st of January, 1856, and is a son of John and Christina (Orner) Weller, both of whom were natives of



Pennsylvania and of stanch German lineage. John Weller was born in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, and was reared to maturity in his native state, where he continued to maintain his home until 1843, when he came to Ohio. He became one of the successful representatives of the agricultural industry in Seneca county and here he continued to reside until his death, as did also his wife, who was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Orner and who was a child at the time of her parents removal from Pennsylvania to Seneca county. John and Christina (Orner) Weller became the parents of five sons and three daughters, all of whom are living and of the number Henry J. is the oldest.

Henry J. Weller was reared on the old home farm which was the place of his birth and he continued to attend the district schools until he had attained the age of fourteen years. Thereafter he continued to be associated with his father in the work of the home farm until he was seventeen years of age, when he supplemented his earlier discipline by attending a normal school at Republic, this county, for one term. He then put his scholastic attainments to practical test by turning his attention to the pedagogic profession. For five winter terms he taught in the district schools of Seneca county and though he was successful in his work he realized the limitations of this vocation and determined to prepare himself for the law. Accordingly, on the 2nd of April, 1878, he entered the law office of the firm of Noble & Adams, in Tiffin, the senior member of which was the late Warren P. Noble, one of the most distinguished members of the Seneca county bar. Under such able preceptorship Mr. Weller made rapid advancement in his absorption and assimilation of the science of jurisprudence and he was admitted to practice before the supreme court of Ohio on the 2nd of June, 1880. He was the first law student from Seneca county to be admitted to the bar under the provisions of the new law requiring examination of candidates before the supreme court. Prior to January 1, 1880, students had been admitted by the district courts. On the 1st of March, 1881, Mr. Weller opened an office in Tiffin, where he conducted an individual practice until June 10, 1885, when he formed a partnership alliance with Judge John McCauley, with whom he has since been associated, under the firm name of McCauley & Weller, and with offices in the Commercial Bank Block, at the corner of Washington and Court streets. These offices have been occupied by the firm since the 1st of March, 1885, and Mr. Weller has maintained his home in Tiffin since the 2nd of April, 1878. He was admitted to the supreme court of the United States in April, 1897. He has proved an able coadjutor to his honored partner, of whom more specific mention is made on other pages of this work. Mr. Weller's close application, reliability and unmistakable ability in the various branches of professional work have brought to him a definite and worthy success, giving him prestige as one of the leading members of the bar of his native county, where he has a strong hold upon popular confidence and esteem. He has shown a lively interest in public affairs and is a stanch adherent of the Democratic party, under whose banner he

has been aligned since the time of attaining to his legal majority. He has had no predilection for public office and has served in none except that of member of the city council, of which he was president during one year of his two year term. He has been unflinching to the work of his profession and has been retained in connection with a large amount of important litigation in both state and federal courts. The firm of which he is a member has served as legal attorneys for the Cleveland, Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis Railroad since 1890 and for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad since 1895. Mr. Weller is a stockholder and director of the National Machinery Company, of Tiffin, and is counsel for the same. He is the owner of considerable amount of valuable real estate in his home city, is a stockholder in the local telephone company and is also the owner of National Bank stock. He is affiliated with Tiffin Lodge, No. 77, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he has been a member since 1878, and in 1877 he became a member of Tiffin Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past noble grand but from which he secured a withdrawal card in 1895.

On the 30th of December, 1884, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Weller to Miss Julia M. Paynter, a daughter of Martin S. and Sarah L. Paynter, the father a native of Maryland and the mother of Pennsylvania. They came to Ohio in the pioneer days, here passing the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Weller have no children. They have maintained their home at 216 South Washington street since the time of their marriage and Mrs. Weller has been a popular figure in connection with the best social activities of the community.

DR. HOWARD K. SHUMAKER is one of the well known and greatly respected citizens of Seneca county. A former medical missionary whose ministrations to submerged humanity took him to the Orient, he has been restored to his native county for the reason that his health could not withstand the rigors of the foreign climate, and his gifts are now being devoted to the upbuilding of the Orphans' Home of Flat Rock. Always inclined to philanthropy, he finds his present field most congenial and his services to the above mentioned institution are of the highest possible character.

Dr. Shumaker was born August 26, 1871, the son of Reverend Joseph B. and Susan (Keller) Shumaker, the father a native of this state and the mother of Pennsylvania. The education of both of these worthy people was finished in Heidelberg College in Tiffin. After entering the ministry of the German Reformed church, the father began his labors as a clergyman in Ohio, and later moved to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where for fourteen years he filled the pastorate of St. Paul's Reformed church. The parents of the subject were married in 1869, and three children were born to them, the other members of the family being Claude H. Shumaker, Paynesville, Ohio, and Miss Anna M. Shumaker, Bellevue, Ohio.

Dr. Shumaker resided with his parents until 1894, in which

year he inaugurated his career as a practicing physician. Having graduated from Heidelberg College in 1891, with the degree of A. B., he entered Starling Medical College in Columbus, Ohio, and completed his course in this well known institution of the capital city in 1894, after which he took post graduate work in the Chicago Post Graduate Medical College of Chicago. He hung up his shingle in that year at Old Fort, Ohio, and after three years of practice he went to Canton, China, as a medical missionary for the United Brethren church. He gave his best abilities in faithful service to the cause for the space of six years and a half. At the end of that time the climate and nervous strain incident to the Boxer uprising and Kung Si famine had undermined his constitution and necessitated his return. Upon his return to Ohio he took up his residence at Flat Rock as a physician, and some what later the affairs of the Orphans' Home engaged his attention and proved work to which he could give all his energy and enthusiasm. This engages his attention almost to the exclusion of general practice, particularly as he also engages in the instruction of the minds of the young citizens who have been bereft of natural protectors, as well as attending to their bodily ailments.

On the 25th day of January, 1902, Dr. Shumaker was united in marriage to Miss Austia Patterson, an instructor in the Ho Nam School for Girls at Canton, China, these two young people having been brought together through their missionary work.

Dr. Shumaker's maternal ancestors, the Kellers, are extremely well known and prominent in their part of Ohio. His grandfather, Judge John H. Keller, of Bucyrus, was born in the year 1786, in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, and served as judge of the common pleas court and for years was brigade inspector of state militia. Six uncles of the subject served during the war of the rebellion, one of them, Aaron Keller, being captain of Company C, Forty-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and it is for this valiant soldier that Keller Post of Bucyrus, Ohio, is named. Amos Keller was First Lieutenant in the same Company, and both gave up their lives at the battle of Stone River. Thus on both sides of his family does Dr. Shumaker have reason to be proud of those who have preceded him.

DENNIS F. DERR, a well known citizen of Tiffin, Ohio, belongs to one of the early pioneer families of Seneca county, with which they became identified early in the last century. Ezra Derr, the father of Dennis F., was born in Frederick county, Maryland, in 1806, and in young manhood came to Ohio. He came on horseback and remained during that winter. On his return he informed his father that he was going to come here to live, and the entire family then also came to Ohio, their settlement being in Seneca county, where he was reared and married. His wife, Rosanna (Cramer) Derr, like himself was a native of Frederick county, Maryland, and was brought by her parents when a child to Seneca county. After their marriage they settled in Clinton township, where he cleared and improved a farm, and where they passed the rest of their lives and died. At the time of his death he was the







MR. AND MRS. WADE H. RULE

owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land northeast of Tiffin. In their family were four sons and three daughters, of whom at this writing, 1910, three are living: John, William and Dennis F., all residents of Seneca county.

Dennis F. Derr was born on his father's farm, above referred to, May 17, 1836, and was reared and educated in his native township, receiving his education in the common schools near his home. He remained a member of the home circle until he was twenty-seven, when he married. Farming has been his life occupation. He owns two farms, comprising one hundred and fifty-two acres, both in Seneca county, and personally still superintends their operation but makes his home in Tiffin, at 61 Clay street.

In 1863 Mr. Derr married Miss Mary Dudrow, who had come to Tiffin, Ohio, with her parents in 1846 and settled on a farm near the town. The Dudrows were also natives of Frederick county, Maryland, where Mrs. Derr was born December 23, 1839. Three children are the fruits of this union: Charles E., attorney at law, Tiffin, Anna, wife of Samuel Horn, and Mary, wife of Charles Weller.

When Civil war was inaugurated Mr. Derr was among the first to show his patriotic loyalty to the Union by enlisting his service to help put down the rebellion, and went out as a member of Company A, Eighth Ohio Regiment, with which he remained one hundred days. At the end of that time he was sent home on account of sickness. As soon as he had sufficiently recovered, however, he again joined the ranks, and in 1862 went to the front with the Eighty-sixth Ohio. But after four months more of army life he was again overtaken by illness and was discharged on account of disability.

While Mr. Derr has never been a public man or aspired to public office he has maintained a firm faith in the Republican party and has always given it his vote and his best support. He is a member of Sandusky Lodge, No. 77, F. and A. M., and he and his family are identified with the First Reformed church of Tiffin.

WADE H. RULE.—The name of Rule is one which is widely and favorably known in this section of Ohio, and one of the most prominent and promising of those who bear it at the present day is Wade H. Rule, who is engaged in the flour, feed and coal business in Greenspring and whose unusual executive gifts have made this one of the most important business interests in this section of the county, Mr. Rule enjoying an exceptionally large trade. He has made rapid progress for his years and has succeeded in establishing himself substantially when under twenty-five, for his birth occurred May 2, 1886, in the present scene of his activities. His parents were Sidney and Anna (McHenry) Rule. The father was born March 22, 1861, the son of Jefferson and Eliza (Patterson) Rule, their ancestors being natives respectively of the empire state and of Ohio. The grandparents on the Rule side were both born in the year 1820. In the year 1844 they located upon land in Adams township, Seneca county, and here their children were born and reared and the elders remained throughout the residue



of their lives, the mother passing on to her reward in 1879 and the father in 1902. Although not one of the first to set about reclaiming Ohio from the wilderness, the founder of the family in the state cleared his farm from timber and improved it in an exceptionally fine manner, among other things building a commodious brick house.

They reared a family of typical pioneer size, for there were twelve children, and seven of them are living at the present day. Jennie, the eldest, married Anthony Von Scoter, of St. John's Michigan; Lucy A. became the wife of Edward Sherman of the same place; Adda E. became the wife of Charles E. Coffman, of Tiffin; Albert J., born June 30, 1859, married Della D. Hoeltzel; Sidney P., resides upon the old family homestead of the Rules; Della V., is the wife of J. J. Henneger and resides on a farm not far distant from Morris. The head of the family was public spirited and a man who studied the issues of the day. He voted the Democratic ticket and gave his support to all those causes likely to result in the attainment of the greatest amount of good to the greatest number.

Sidney Rule, father of him whose name initiates this review, was educated in the district schools adjacent to his home, became well grounded in the agricultural science, and resided at home until his marriage. The lady to become his wife was Anna D. McHenry, who was born March 19, 1864, her parents being John and Anna D. McHenry, native Ohioans, who located in Adams township. After the death of the father his widow lived at Tiffin, Ohio, and she remained with Mrs. Rule until her marriage, October 10, 1883. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Rule have been born five children, four sons and a daughter, as follows: Wade H., born May 2, 1886; Cletus B., born February 22, 1889, married Meda Parker, June 16, 1910, and is the owner and cultivator of his own farm; Floyd W., born May 8, 1895, now attending school at Greenspring, after having victoriously passed the Boxwell examinations at the age of thirteen years; John M., born March 18, 1898, and living at home; and Helen L., born November 18, 1905. In the matter of politics Sidney Rule is favorably inclined toward the policies and principles promulgated by the Democratic party, but he is not one of those who fear to sacrifice their partisanship to a good cause. He purchased his present farm of two hundred and fifty-five acres of the fertile surface of Seneca county with his own earnings and he is one of the progressive agriculturists.

Wade H. Rule spent his boyhood and youth upon his father's farm, and like his brothers assisted in its cultivation, so that although he is enrolled in the ranks of commerce, still he is not unlearned in the calling of which so many of his relatives have been exponents. He received his preliminary education in the schools of Adams township and afterward matriculated in Heidelberg College at Tiffin, for the space of several terms taking advantage of the excellent educational opportunities afforded by that institution. In the year 1909 Mr. Rule established himself independently in the world of affairs in Greenspring, purchasing

the business conducted by J. L. Stoner (deceased) for twenty-three years previously. His line is flour, feed and coal and he furnishes these necessary commodities to a great number of people. He is one of those whose social side is not undeveloped and he finds pleasure and profit in his lodge relations, which extend to the great Masonic Order, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in the latter of which he is at present vice grand. He holds the office of secretary in the business association for the encouragement of commerce in Greenspring and the surrounding country, and is also a member of the corporation council. Mr. Rule is a staunch Republican.

On the 10th day of June, 1906, the subject was united in marriage to Miss Dorothy King, of Greenspring, Ohio, she being a daughter of George and Flora (Kunan) King, natives of Ohio. Mrs. Rule was born in the year 1884 and was educated in the public schools. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a daughter named Florence, born May 22, 1909.

HERBERT S. FRY.—One of Pleasant township's enterprising and successful young citizens is Herbert S. Fry, a man of versatile ability, formerly engaged in the hardware business, then an agriculturist and now a prosperous manufacturer of that labor-saving device, the corn husking peg. This is winning wide distinction and is greatly esteemed by the agriculturists. Mr. Fry is a native son, his birth having occurred April 1, 1877, his parents being Orvin J. and Melissa (Decker) Fry, the father a native of this township and the mother of Bellville, Sandusky county, Ohio. In the veins of the subject there flows the blood of the plucky Hollander, which has proved its virtues to be among the most excellent of all the nations. His grandfather Phillip Fry, was a native of the land of dykes, who at an early age bade farewell to old friends and familiar associations and came to America to claim his share of the wealth and opportunity so brightly painted by tradition. He arrived in troublous times, however, for it is said by his descendants that he came some time near the year 1812. The mother was a native Pennsylvanian. This worthy pioneer couple located on a farm consisting of three hundred and forty-five acres, and there they maintained their home, being people of influence and earnest members of the German Reformed church.

Nearly all of the people of Mr. Fry's mother were Pennsylvanians, who cast their fortunes with the newer state of Ohio at about the same time as the Frys. The elder Decker settled in this township and cultivated a farm consisting of about three hundred and twenty acres. The names are both well and favorably known in this section.

Mr. Fry remained beneath the home roof until the attainment of his twenty-second birthday, when he pulled up stakes and went to North Dakota to satisfy a desire to see new lands and try his fling at independence. He took a claim in that state and after he had proved up on the same, like most good Ohioans, he returned to the state of his birth, this being in 1904. Two years later he forsook the ranks of the young bachelors and became a benedict by

his marriage to Miss Zula Share, who was born September 12, 1881, her parents being William and Dora (Brickman) Share. Both of them were natives of Pleasant township, being located near Fort Seneca. They have one child, a little son, named Ned Monroe, born December 10, 1909.

Mr. Fry gives stalwart support to the Democratic party and he has already seen public service, having been elected township clerk. He takes an intelligent view of the issues of the day and no doubt has a political as well as a business career before him. He and his wife are members of the Reformed church and his fraternal affiliations extend to the Knighted Order of Tented Maccabees. He received his higher education at Heidelberg, but left that institution of learning previous to completing his course.

As before suggested he has had a varied career for a man of his years, having been first engaged in the hardware business in Old Fort. He owns a farm in Bridgefield township, Huron county, Ohio, and also conducts the plant for the manufacture of the Standard Corn Husking Pegs at Old Fort.

FRED FETZER, proprietor of the Home Restaurant, No. 47 South Washington street, Tiffin, Ohio, is a native of the "Buckeye state." He was born at Findlay, Hancock county, Ohio, March 23, 1879, and was reared and received his business training there. At the age of twenty he began to learn the first principles of the restaurant business by starting out as a cook. He served several years in that capacity before engaging in business for himself, which he did in Findlay, and remained there until 1906. That year he came to Tiffin and opened a restaurant at 47 South Washington street, which he named the Home Restaurant. So successful was he that the following year he was able to purchase a half interest in the building he occupied, and later he purchased the other half. He has made extensive improvements in the premises and has personally supervised every detail of the business, the result being that today he is the owner of "the best place to eat" in Tiffin.

Mr. Fetzer is a member of the K. of C., and both he and his wife are identified with St. Joseph Catholic church. Mrs. Fetzer, formerly Miss Florence Gibson, is also a native of Findlay, Ohio.

GEORGE B. WORTMAN, D. D. S.—Possessing acknowledged skill and giving close attention to his professional duties, George B. Wortman, D. D. S., is fast building up a large and lucrative practice in Tiffin, and although he has been here a comparatively brief time is already one of the leading representatives of the dental profession in this city. A native of Ohio, born at Cadiz, Harrison county, he is a son of J. D. Wortman, M. D., of Wheeling, West Virginia.

After his graduation from the Cadiz High School George B. Wortman completed the banking and bookkeeping course of study in Scio College, at Scio, Ohio, after which he attended Franklin College at New Athens, Ohio. Then, in order to fit himself for a position in his father's drug store, he continued his studies at



the Pittsburg College of Pharmacy. Having, however, from youth up a predilection for a professional career, he subsequently entered the Ohio College of Dental Surgery in Cincinnati, and was there graduated in 1884, with the degree of D. D. S. Dr. Wortman began the practice of his profession in Cadiz, his home town, remaining there nine or ten years. Keeping pace with the discoveries and improvements made in dentistry from year to year, the doctor has taken post graduate courses both at Cincinnati and at Chicago, Illinois. From Cadiz he removed to Massillon, Ohio, where he built up a substantial business. Selling out on account of ill health, he spent a year recuperating, and having recovered his former physical vigor he came, August 1, 1909, to Tiffin, locating at No. 142 1-2 South Washington street, over Hayden's drug store, his present office, and has since been busily employed.

Dr. Wortman married Nancy Holliday, and they are the parents of three children, two sons and a daughter. The Doctor and Mrs. Wortman are members of the Presbyterian church. Politically the Doctor is a sound Republican. He has gained high standing in the community as a citizen, and has also gained the esteem of a wide circle of friends and the respect of men of all classes with whom he has come in contact.

J. EDWARD NEWHOUSE.—It is most pleasing to the publishers of this compilation to incorporate within its pages a history of the career of J. Edward Newhouse, who is a native son of Seneca county, which has represented his home during practically his entire life thus far and who is a scion of a fine old German family, his paternal grandparents having emigrated to America about the year 1869.

Mr. Newhouse was born in Sciopo township, this county, on the 26th of January, 1879, and is a son of Fred and Mary A. (Miller) Newhouse, the former of whom was born in Germany in 1854, and the latter of whom is a native of Seneca county, Ohio. Fred Newhouse received his preliminary educational training in the excellent schools of his fatherland and he was a lad of fifteen years of age at the time of his parents emigration to America. The family first located in the city of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and here the father of the subject of this review obtained employment in a glass factory. Later he resolved to seek his fortunes further west and he journeyed to Ohio, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits in Seneca county. Here was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary A. Miller, whose maternal grandfather was a gallant soldier in the Union ranks in the Civil war. Both Mr. and Mrs. Miller are living.

J. Edward Newhouse was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm, in whose work he early began to assist his father, and he has continued on as an agriculturist. He availed himself of the advantages afforded in the district schools and remained at the parental home until he had attained to his legal majority, at which time he hired out as a farm hand for a period of three years.

In politics Mr. Newhouse is aligned as a stalwart supporter of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands

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sponsor in matters of national import, but in local affairs he maintains an independent attitude, giving his support to men and measures meeting with the approval of his judgment. He is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character and both he and his wife hold membership in the United Brethren church.

On the 29th of September, 1903, at Attica, Ohio, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Newhouse to Miss Addie Rader, who is a native of Van Wert county, Ohio, and who is a daughter of J. F. and Kate Rader, representative citizens of that county, where the father is a retired farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Newhouse have two children, Gladys, who was born on the 16th of March, 1905; and Joel F., who was born September 24, 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Newhouse are prominent and popular figures in connection with the best social activities of the community and their attractive home is recognized as a center of gracious and generous hospitality.

R. T. SCHAAF.—Few citizens of years as few as those of R. T. Schaaf have been engaged in as many pursuits or have achieved as signal success in their permanent life work. One of the progressive and honored young exponents of the great basic industry of agriculture, he has splendid prospects and is the owner of two hundred and ten acres of fine land situated near Attica, and is also engaged in the raising of fine cattle.

R. T. Schaaf was born in Attica, Ohio, on the first day of April, 1884. His father, Henry Schaaf, was born in Seneca county and, as the name indicates, the family is of German origin. The paternal grandparents, in fact, were natives of the German Empire and followed the example set by so many of their friends and neighbors, breaking old ties and crossing the seas to claim their share of American freedom and prosperity. Henry Schaaf married Caroline Lebold, who was born in Attica, Ohio. Both parents reside in Attica, where they are recognized as estimable people, and where their church membership is with the Evangelical Lutheran church. Besides him whose name initiates this article they have another son, Charles, who makes his home in Bryan, Ohio.

Mr. Schaaf received his education in the public schools of Attica, graduating from the high school in that place in 1900. His first adventure as a factor in the world of affairs was as a clerk in a drug store, which position he continued to hold for five years, his services being of marked ability. Upon leaving the drug store Mr. Schaaf made a radical change in business, purchasing a transfer line in Attica, which he operated for four years and a half. He sold out subsequently and engaged in farming, the most entire success having attended his efforts. In addition to general agriculture he deals extensively in stock, developing cattle of the Durham breed. His very desirable farming property is adorned by one of the prettiest homes in Reed township.

Mr. Schaaf has but recently joined the ranks of the benedicts, his union with Lillie M. Cook having been solemnized March 16, 1910. She was also born in Seneca county, and her parents, Harman and Mahala Cook, are both deceased. Mr. Schaaf is

very faithful in his allegiance to the men and measures of the Republican party, and he is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church.

ALBERT F. BLACK.—A man of sterling integrity and worth energetic and enterprising, Albert F. Black, residing at 119 West Market street, Tiffin, holds a substantial position among the active and valued citizens of the place. A son of Jacob Black, Jr., he was born September 28, 1862, in Wyandot county, Ohio. His grandparents, Jacob Sr., and Sarah Black, came from Maryland, their native state, to Clinton township, Seneca county, Ohio, in pioneer days and on the homestead they reclaimed from its primitive wildness spent the remainder of their lives.

Jacob Black Jr., was born May 3, 1828, in Clinton township, Seneca county, and was there reared to manhood. Soon after beginning life for himself he located in Wyandot county, and was there engaged in tilling the soil for many years. Returning to Seneca county in 1867, he bought a farm near Adrian and there followed his chosen occupation until near his death, in October, 1896. He married, November 11, 1852, Elizabeth Miley, who was born March 8, 1833, in Seneca county, Ohio, where her parents, John and Magdalena (Beaver) Miley, located in 1828, coming to this state from Virginia, their native home. She preceded him to the life beyond, passing away June 19, 1895. Four children blessed their union, as follows: John H., born September 1, 1853, a retired farmer now living at Carey, Ohio; Emma, deceased, wife of Frank Johnson, of Adrian; a child who died in infancy; and Albert F. The father was a successful farmer, owning two well-improved farms of fertile land which he brought to a good state of cultivation. The mother was a member of the United Brethren church and both were held in high estimation throughout the community in which they lived.

Acquiring a substantial knowledge of the common branches of learning in the Adrian special schools, Albert F. Black received a practical training in agriculture under the supervision of his father, with whom he remained until twenty-six years of age. Soon after his marriage he located in Tiffin, where he has since resided. He owns an extensive tract of fine farming land in Big Spring township and personally superintends its management. The farm is highly improved and is devoted to general farming and stock raising. He has other interests of value and is a director and a stockholder in the Citizens' Building Association of Tiffin.

On February 28, 1889, Mr. Black was united in marriage with Electa M. Walton, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, July 28, 1866, and was educated in the district schools and at the Fostoria and Greenspring Academies. Her father, Levi Walton, an extensive live stock dealer and farmer, was born January 25, 1833, and died January 23, 1878, while his wife, whose maiden name was Huldah Wood, was born May 2, 1836, and died February 19, 1895. Besides Mrs. Black they had two other children, Edith Emma, who died at the age of thirteen months, and a son who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Black are the parents of one son, Forrest R.



Black, born November 3, 1894, who is a student in the Tiffin high school, a member of the class of 1912. Besides the land interests of Mr. Black, his wife is also an extensive land holder, and both of them can ever be counted upon to give their support to all causes likely to prove of benefit to the whole community. The family attend the First Presbyterian church of Tiffin.

MICHAEL L. SCANNELL.—A resident of Tiffin since 1863, Michael L. Scannell, a man of unquestioned executive and business ability, has gained a foremost position among the worthy and respected citizens of this part of Seneca county. Coming here when the city was in its infancy, he has watched with pride and gratification its rapid growth and continually increasing prosperity, and has been conspicuously identified with its best interests, generously using his time and influence to promote the public welfare.

As president and treasurer of the Tiffin Water Works, he has been eminently successful in furnishing the people with an ample supply of pure water for domestic use and a sufficient quantity for protection from fire. Under his efficient superintendency the city water works, established in 1879, have met all the requirements demanded by an up-to-date city, modern improvements being added whenever required. Under the management of Mr. Scannell a direct pumping system has been installed, the pumping station being situated up the Sandusky river, south of Tiffin, and as adequate provisions are made for all emergencies a shortage of water has never been known and is not anticipated, the pumping capacity being eight million gallons of water a day.

The office of the Tiffin Water Works is located at the corner of East Market and Monroe streets, and is under the supervision of Mr. Scannell, who has an efficient and obliging corps of assistants, who vie with him in attending to the needs of the patrons of the department. Mr. Scannell holds a noteworthy position in social and business circles, being in every respect a man of honor and a perfect gentleman.

WILLIAM HART TABER.—For a quarter of a century W. H. Taber has lived upon and operated his valuable and attractive farm in Reed township and has proved an effective factor in the attainment of that high degree of prosperity and enlightenment which Seneca county enjoys. He is entitled to honor not only as a good citizen, but also as a veteran of the Civil war, and his family, of which he has record for many generations, is one of the oldest in the land, his maternal ancestors, the Alvords, having set foot on American soil only a few years after the Pilgrims.

Mr. Taber is a native son of the county, his birth having occurred in Venice township, October 13, 1845. His father, Record Taber, and his mother, whose maiden name was Nancy Alvord, were born in Cayuga county, New York. They emigrated to Ohio in the year 1842 and located in Venice township, where the father soon won recognition as a worthy citizen. He was a hard working man and one of modest means, but he assisted in every way he could to advance the schools and the churches, contributing

liberally from his small store. He was first a Whig in political faith, and upon the organization of the Republican party became identified with it.

Mr. Taber received his education in the Seneca county schools and although he was scarcely seventeen years of age at the breaking out of the Civil war, he joined the one hundred day service. He was a member of Company G, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio, and was under Colonel John C. Lee, who was later elected lieutenant governor of Ohio. He has by no means lost interest in the comrades of other days, and his remembered experiences of the days of the conflict between the states are interesting. Although Mr. Taber is a successful farmer, his interests are not limited to his vocation and he finds time for the cultivation of the more aesthetic side of life. He has a good collection of books and is a great reader and he enjoys taking his violin and playing the old tunes. He is a staunch adherent of the policies and principles of the Republican party and he has several times served as trustee and justice of the peace. Although a good soldier in other days he has never been a recruit to the ranks of the Benedicts. He resided with his parents for many years, taking care of them until their demise, that of the father occurring February 27, 1876, and that of the mother on July 4, 1893.

As previously mentioned Mr. Taber can trace his ancestry on the maternal side through many generations, or from 1632 to the present day. In tracing it back through the years the name Alvord is found to be spelled in many different ways, such as Alvorwrd, etc. In the genealogical record an interesting incident having to do with the then current belief in witchcraft is related. One of the Alvords was collecting taxes in his locality in the state of Massachusetts and he called upon one Barnard Bartlet, whose wife protested against paying them. Finally convinced of the impossibility of avoiding payment the Bartlet woman declared that although Alvord might get the money his wife would be sorry. Upon returning home Alvord found his wife insane and she subsequently committed suicide by drowning. It was held that Mrs. Bartlet had bewitched Mrs. Alvord. The first Alvord in America was Alex, who came from London, England, in 1632 and located in Salem, Massachusetts.

DAVID J. AUBLE.—Among the prominent citizens of Reed township, Seneca county, David J. Auble has given efficient service in various offices of public trust and he is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on his fine farm of eighty acres, one mile distant from West Lodi, where he has resided since 1863. He was born at West Lodi, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 8th of August, 1863. His father, Peter Auble, was born in the state of New York and he emigrated to Seneca county, Ohio, about the year 1837. His parents homesteaded in Thompson township and he received his education in the district schools and in the Seneca County Academy at Republic. Leaving the academy at about twenty he returned to his father's farm and at the time of the inception of the Civil war he served in the Union army for a period of ninety days. There-

after he was constable of Reed township, and he now resides in the village of Republic. He married Miss Lyda Stout, who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, of parents who were originally from Pennsylvania. The children born to this union were: Clara, who married Charles Unser, resides in Green Springs, this county; Emory, is deceased; Harley, resides in Reed township; Myrtle is deceased; and David J., is the immediate subject of this review.

David J. Auble was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm, in whose work he assisted during the summers, attending the district schools during the winter terms. Besides diversified agriculture he is deeply interested in the raising of high grade stock, including Poland China swine. He is treasurer and was one of the promoters of the West Lodi Creamery Association, which is capitalized at \$5,700. In politics he is a staunch advocate of the cause of the Democratic party and he has served as constable of Reed township for a period of twelve years. For two years he was personal property assessor and he has also served two terms as township trustee. In the fall of 1910 he was elected county infirmary director by a majority of one thousand six hundred and ninety-one votes. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has passed the various official chairs in the same. He attends and gives his support to the German Reformed church, in which his wife is a devout member, and he is essentially progressive and public spirited in his civic attitude, giving his aid in support of all worthy measures projected for the good of the general public.

On the 24th of December, 1884, Mr. Auble was united in marriage to Miss Kate Hensinger, who was born in Adams township, this county, and whose parents were natives of Pennsylvania. Her father is deceased and her mother is now residing at Tiffin, Ohio, at the venerable age of seventy years. Mr. and Mrs. Auble are the parents of the following children: Maudie Elora, Perry Blane, John Harley, Mabel Elmira and Noble D., the latter of whom is the wife of Andy Powers and resides in Scipio township.

MILTON VAN VOORHEES—The history of the Van Voorhees family of which the immediate subject of this article is a member is interesting. The following details of Elijah Van Voorhees and his family may be depended upon as of authority. They are drawn from the "Genealogy of the Van Voorhees family in America" by the late Elias W. Van Voorhees, of New York. Van Voorhees is the anglicised surname form of the Hollandic words "van voor Hees," meaning from before, or in front of, the town of Hees. The earliest ascertained ancestor of the American family was Albert Van Voor Hees, whose name signified one Albert who lived near Hees. Few Dutch colonists of America came to this side of the Atlantic with surnames of established usage after the English fashion, and when, in conformity with English custom, they began to adopt fixed family names they usually took parental or other Christian names or names of localities in Holland. The town of Hees, the native place of this family, is a small community in the province of Drentha. Albert Van Voorhees, first of the





Arthur St. Lawrence Van Dusen William Van Dusen



name, had nine children, the eldest of whom was Coert Albert Van Voorhees who lived in Holland. Of his seven children the eldest, Steven Coerte Van Voorhees, was born in or near Hees, province of Drentha, Holland, April, 1660. He came to America with his wife and eight children, on the ship *Borelekre* (Spotted Cone), and settled on Long Island. He bought from Cornelius Dirksen Hoogland, November 29, 1660, for three thousand guilders, certain landed property, a house and house plot and a brewery and apparatus in what is now Flatlands. In 1664 he was one of the magistrates of that place and his name appears under date 1667 on a patent, and under dates 1675 and 1683 on assessment rolls. He and his second wife were members of the Dutch Reformed church of Flatlands in 1667. Steven Coerte Van Voorhees' will is dated August 25, 1677, and he died in Flatlands, February 16, 1684. His first wife's name is lost. She bore him five sons and five daughters, all in Holland. The two of them who did not come to America with him came later. All of them married, creating numerous lines of descent from him in the Van Voorhees and other families. His third child, Coerte Steven Van Voorhees of Flatlands, Long Island, born 1637, died after 1702. He married before 1664 Gersstre Van Voorhees and had nine children, the seventh of whom was Cornelius Coerte, born January 23, 1678, who was an ensign of militia in 1700 and who bought a farm in Flatlands May 14, 1702. He had five children. Coerte was born in 1698 and his will was filed February 11, 1775. He signed his name "Koert Voorhees." He had six children, of whom the fifth born was Coerte, August 21, 1735, and who died September 11, 1817. He married first Ealy Van Pelt, then Helen Hoogland, and lived at Dutch Neck, Mercer county, New Jersey. He had eight children, the eldest of whom was Coerte, born February 28, 1756, who died March 9, 1821. He married, May 27, 1779, Ann Updike, born March 27, 1760, who died July 13, 1845. They had nine children, Catherine, William, Cornelius, Ann, Elizabeth, Mary, John, Major and Elijah. Major was born May 12, 1796, and died December 16, 1880. He married, January 6, 1820, Athalia Cumberly, born August 7, 1799, and had no children. Catherine married William H. Conover, February 20, 1801, and had seven children: Mary A., Phoebe, Elijah, Voorhees, Caroline, William and Cornelius. She settled in New Jersey.

Elijah, born in New Jersey, June 5, 1802, married Jane Rozelle December 21, 1825, and in 1835 they moved to New York and in 1836 to Sandusky county, Ohio, traveling by canal to Buffalo, thence by lake to Port Huron, Michigan, where they got ox teams with which to continue their journey to Fremont, then a mere village. Until they could build a log cabin for their occupancy they lived with Mr. Van Voorhees' brother-in-law, Charles Rozelle, south of Fremont. Their first domicile was windowless, doorless, floorless and otherwise primitive. The family consisted then of the father, mother and four children. Mr. Van Voorhees cleared five acres and sowed some of it to wheat. He cut his wheat with a cradle and threshed with a flail.

Mr. Van Voorhees' original place is now a part of the old Van



Voorhees homestead, owned by Oliver, son of Elisha Van Voorhees, and occupied by the latter's son George. His surroundings were truly primitive. His white neighbors were few and far between, Indians often crossed his land going to and coming from Upper Sandusky and the woods were full of game, the streams alive with fishes. Mr. Van Voorhees died February 11, 1863, his wife, June 24 following. They had ten children. Ann was born May 18, 1827; Alexander, July 24, 1828, died August 2 of that year; Mary E., October 5, 1829; John M., February 29, 1833; William H., February 16, 1834; Andrew, July 19, 1836; George, March 28, 1839, died December 8, that year; Amanda Jane, October 23, 1840; Oliver D., July 12, 1842; Ezra E., September 2, 1846. Ann married Amos Mull and had six children, of whom the following account can be given: Cordelia is the wife of Thomas Jackson, of Sandusky county, Ohio; Enos, married Irene Sager, of Michigan; Edwin, married Mary Sachs, of the state of Washington; William, married and is living in Colorado; Vienna, is the wife of Brough Maul, postmaster at Greenspring, Ohio; Sylvester, is living in Orleans, Nebraska, with his mother; Amos Mull, died there, having gone there from Ohio some years ago; Mary E., married Samuel Mull, of Sandusky county, Ohio, and had six children; Ermina Jane, is the wife of J. K. Huttie, of Spartansburg, South Carolina; Ellen, became Mrs. Pitman and died in 1897; Henry P., born April 25, 1855, died June 12, 1889; Olive (Mull) Fisher, born September 26, 1857, died May 26, 1900; Alice, married William Forshay, of Detroit, Michigan. The Rev. Charles V. Mull is a minister of the United Brethren church at South Bend, Indiana. Mary E. (Voorhees) Mull died December 27, 1888; Samuel Mull died at Ligonier, Indiana, April 26, 1896. John M. Voorhees married Sarah J. Winters and they had children: Major Jerome, married Ann Havens and is living in Sandusky county, Ohio; Amanda, is the wife of J. H. Michaels, of Kansas, Ohio. William H. Voorhees married Catharine Mowery and they had two children: Milton, the immediate subject of this article, and Milo, now of Scottsville, Michigan, who married Lena Gamertsfelter. William's first wife died and he married Rebecca Stoner, who bore him two children: Elijah Van Voorhees, of Bettsville, Ohio, married to Lorena Kenan, and Anna, who married Charles Baker, of Bettsville. William died February 8, 1894. Andrew Van Voorhees married Mary Mowery. Their only child, Frank Van Voorhees of Gibsonburg, Ohio, married Orpha Fry. Mary (Mowery) Van Voorhees died February 9, 1859, and Andrew married Margaret Jackson and they had three daughters: Clara, wife of R. H. Chapman; Florence, wife of James Wichert; and Nina, wife of Chester Edgerton. Margaret (Jackson) Van Voorhees died and Andrew married Fannie Hailey, who survives him, he having died March 24, 1896. Amanda Jane Van Voorhees married Jeremiah Winters and bore him three children: Arilda Jane, wife of Frank Havens of Sandusky county, Ohio; Chauncey, who married Sarah Myers; and Herman, who married Stella Hughes, of Fremont, Ohio. Anna died February 6, 1905. Oliver D. Van Voorhees married Lucina Schock, of Bettsville. Their only child, Mary Jane, married Frank Brokaw, of

Eagle, Michigan. Lucina died and he married Sophia B. Stahls, of Fremont, Ohio, who has bore him children: Verna B., wife of Russell Shannon, of Tiffin; Benjamin W., of Bettsville; Irena (Mrs. Heiser) of Tiffin; George H., who married Dora Dundore; Fred O., who married Dora Soloman; Karl S., who married Lulu Kenan; Sherman O., of Rye Valley, Oregon. Ezra E. Van Voorhees married Katharine Stiger, and they had six children: Jennie, wife of Mark Day, of Bettsville; Ella, wife of A. A. Rider, of Bettsville; Carrie, wife of George Shearer, of Fremont; Edith, wife of Welby Stahl, of Bloomville, Ohio; Minnie, wife of William Mitchell, of Burgoon, Sandusky county, Ohio; Hazel, wife of Robert Emmons, of Bettsville.

There is still another generation of the descendants of Elijah Van Voorhees' branch of the Van Voorhees family. The grandchildren of Ann (Voorhees) Mull are Inez (Jackson) Brubaker, Charles Maule, Zella Maule, Howard Maule, Harry Maule, Fay Mabel, Orville Mull, Grace Mull, Florence Russell, Bert Mull. The grandchildren of Mary Van Voorhees Mull are Frank, Alice, Olive, Edward, Jane and Charles Hottell, Maud Pitman, Charles Forshay, Dot Forshay, Irma (Forshay) McLane, Margaret Mull. The grandchildren of John M. Van Voorhees are John M. Van Voorhees, Jr., Guest Michael Ash. The grandchildren of Andrew Van Voorhees are Harry Chapman, Russell Wichert, Ada Wichert, Raymond Milchler. The grandchildren of William H. Van Voorhees are Edna Esther (Van Voorhees) Hull, Leon Milton Van Voorhees, Florence, Mildred and Helen Van Voorhees, Clarence Baker, Sylvester, Clara, Orpha, Jennie, Murtie, Fannie, Howard, Elma and John Van Voorhees. The grandchildren of Amanda Jane (Van Voorhees) Winters are Flavel Havens, Robert, Esther (Havens) Smith, Oliver Winters, Ed Winters, Ada Winters and Clarence Winters, Ray Havens and Willis Havens. The grandchildren of Oliver D. Van Voorhees are Voorhees Russell, Nathan Vaughan, Phyllis Van Voorhees, Oliver, Winnie and Mark Brokaw. The grandchildren of Ezra E. (Enos) Van Voorhees are Carrol, Enos and Don Stahl, Grace and Olive Day, Merle and Blake Rider, (adopted), Thelma Rider, Garnit Shearer, Ray and Doratha Mitchell. Still another generation has taken its place—great-great-grandchildren of Elijah Van Voorhees: Esther Cecilia Hull and Thelma Marie Baker, great-grandchildren of William H. Van Voorhees; Carlos Wichert, great-grandchild of Andrew Van Voorhees.

Milton Van Voorhees was born in Jackson township, Sandusky county, Ohio, March 25, 1856, a son of William H. and Catharine (Mowery) Van Voorhees. William H., came with his father, Elijah Van Voorhees, from New York. The elder Van Voorhees entered land on Wolf creek, where he made a farm and lived out his days. Catharine Mowery was a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Strayer) Mowery, who came to the United States from Germany about 1810, and she was born in 1829. The Van Voorhees and Mowery families were prominent in their vicinity and leaders in public affairs, and most of them became well to do, if not wealthy. The original Van Voorhees land purchase of eighty acres was expanded by subsequent acquisitions into a fine estate of seven hun-

dred acres. The Van Voorhees were United Brethren and active and efficient in church work. They were originally Republicans and as such were elected to important township and county offices.

Milton Van Voorhees was educated in public schools and reared a practical farmer. He remained with his parents, assisting in the management of the homestead till his first marriage, October 18, 1878, to Miss Sylvesta Mitchell, daughter of William and Jane (Stewart) Mitchell, and a native of Sandusky county, Ohio. Her parents were natives of New York. She died February 17, 1880, having one child, born January 27, 1880, Sylvester, now a resident of Enderlin, South Dakota, train despatcher on the Great Northern Railroad. He served three years in the Philippine war under Captain Betts. He was honorably discharged as a corporal. He married and has two children, Edna and Cora; great-grandchildren of William Van Voorhees. Milton Van Voorhees married Esther Floraines Blue October 19, 1882. She was born June 18, 1864, a daughter of Dennis and Mary (Good) Blue, he a native of Virginia, she a native of Pennsylvania. Dennis Blue was a son of Dennis and Rebecca (Hayes) Blue, who came to America from Ireland. The elder Dennis Blue located in Liberty township, being a pioneer there, and Dennis Jr., was born in a log cabin which stood on land not long taken from the government.

After his marriage Mr. Van Voorhees engaged in farming on his own account, and he has become one of the leading farmers and stock raisers in his part of the county. Politically he is a Republican, a man of public spirit who has been called to important township offices, particularly in connection with the schools, in which he takes much interest. He is a member of the order of Knights of Honor. Mr. and Mrs. Van Voorhees have two children. Their son, Leon M. Van Voorhees, born March 25, 1890, gained his primary education in public schools and took a course in the department of agriculture in the University of Ohio at Columbus, a member of the the class of 1909. Their daughter, Edna E., born August 29, 1883 is a graduate in music from the Adrian Conservatory of music and is an accomplished artist in pastel. She married Howard A. Hull and bore him one child, Esther C., born July 9, 1908. Mr. Hull died October 18 of the same year. In 1909 Mr. Van Voorhees built a modern residence with up-to-date appointments, including a heating and lighting plant. Leon M. Van Voorhees has been called to the important duties of crop reporter for Seneca county and is performing them with signal ability.

ELMER E. PARKER.—The Parker family has been identified with the history of Pleasant township ever since the year 1826, when Ephriam and Sarah (More) Parker, parents of him whose name initiates this paragraph, came here with their parents, who were people of New Jersey on the paternal side and of Pennsylvania on the maternal. Elmer E. Parker is a native son not only of Seneca county but of Pleasant township, his birth having occurred here on March 17, 1885, on the farm on which he now resides on the Sandusky river, known as the Saddle Back farm, on which his grandparents had located a good many years before. When



his grandparents, Henry and Charlotte Parker, of New Jersey, who were Quakers in religious conviction, settled in Ohio there were many Indians in the locality and they cleared their farm, made a home and reared a family in surroundings which were by no means the safest in the world. In fact his brother, Banagia Parker, who conducted a tavern at Fort Seneca was killed by an Indian named Peter Poark. Henry Parker was a progressive as well as a God fearing man, and he played a prominent and praiseworthy part in the upbuilding of the new county. He was of a Quaker family and his wife was connected with the Baptist church.

Mr. Parker's mother's family, the Mores, came here in 1836, about ten years later than the Parkers. They located on a farm near Hedgetown, where the head of the house ran a grist and saw mill. He ultimately became a large land holder, owning some three hundred and twenty acres. John and Elizabeth (Cupp) More were natives of Pennsylvania and they came to be among the foremost people in the township, being identified with all public works for the advancement of the community in which they made their home. John More was born in 1803 and lived within a few years of the dawn of the twentieth century, being ninety-two years of age at the time of his death.

Elmer E. Parker was educated in the public schools and remained under the parental roof until his marriage. With his father as his guide and model he received a practical training in the various phases of the calling to which the family for numerous generations had devoted their energies. When he desired to assume a more independent station in life he removed with his wife to seventy-eight acres located in Pleasant township, where he has ever since resided. Like all good citizens he keeps informed upon the issues of the hour and his political loyalty is given to the Republican party. An evidence of the trust in which he is held by his fellows is the fact that he has served for five years as township trustee and also as a member of the school board. He and his family are members of the Evangelical church and take an active part in supporting and furthering all the good causes advanced and fathered by it. Mr. Parker has been steward of the church for some years and has served ten years as superintendent of the Sunday school.

On May 13, 1886, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Parker to Miss Clara E. Myers. She was born October 21, 1867, and is the daughter of Constantine and Barbara (Shriner) Myers, natives of Germany, who severed home associations and came to seek new fortunes in the land of the stars and stripes in the year 1858. Their union was fruitful of children, of whom Mrs. Parker is the fourth in order of birth. Mr. and Mrs. Parker became the parents of three children: Meda, became the wife of Cletus Rule of Adams township, and Allen E., born March 9, 1891, is at home with his parents. He was educated in the schools of Old Fort and Greenspring and the past terms has been teaching school in Pleasant township. He is a member of the Evangelical church. The youngest child, Paul, was born November 27, 1896.

HENRY KUHN SPOONER, M. D.—Among the names of the departed revered by Republic that of the late Dr. Henry Kuhn Spooner is eminent, he having been a man whose citizenship was of the highest character and whose memory in the community which knew him best is an enviable legacy. He was born March 21, 1837, the son of William and Caroline F. Spooner, the place of his birth being Wolf creek, and on the 19th day of December, 1907,

“He gave his honors to the world again,  
His blessed part to Heaven, and slept in peace.”

The Spooner family is one which has long been known in America, it having been founded in the United States by one William Spooner who was gathered to his fathers in the month of March, 1684. He served an apprenticeship under John Holmes and on April 28, 1648, he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Partridge, who bore him the following eight children: Sarah, Samuel, Martha, William, Isaac, Hannah, Ebenezer and Mercy. The next in line died in the year 1734. He lived in New England and served as a juror in the court which superintended the laying out of a road from Middleboro, Plymouth county, Massachusetts, to the city of Boston. His sound judgment and resourcefulness in this matter gained the esteem and attention of the whole court, and was largely instrumental in the success of the enterprise. The name of his wife is not recorded, but he was the father of ten children, of whom Samuel was the direct ancestor of Dr. Spooner. He was prominent in his community, frequently holding public office. He married Experience Wing, born August 14, 1668, and was the father of eight children. His son William was next in line and was a lieutenant of militia. He took as his wife Alice Blackwell, and of their eight children, Daniel, forefather of Dr. Spooner, was born February 28, 1699. He married, October 10, 1728, Elizabeth Ruggles and ten children were the issue of their union. His son Wing B., was a carpenter. He married Deborah Church, and became the father of seven children. His son Benjamin married Johanna Toby and had eleven children, Jed, a farmer, being the forbear of the subject. Jed married Sarah Wait and of their two children William was next in line, he serving as a soldier in the Revolution. He married in the year 1797 and his son Henry Kuhn is the subject of this brief biographical review.

Dr. Spooner was reared in his native state of Ohio, and secured his education in Seneca County Academy under Professor Aaron Schuyler, and prepared for his profession at Cleveland, Ohio. The serenity of his youth was marred by the breaking out of the Civil war. He had moved with his parents to the Buckeye state, and he enlisted in the Federal service as assistant surgeon of the Fifty-fifth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1861, and served until December, 1863. He was promoted surgeon of the Sixty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served as surgeon of the Twelfth Division in hospital service until April 1, 1865, when by reason of the consolidation of the Sixty-first and Eighty-

second Regiments, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, he was made a member of that division, and was mustered out of service. He was appointed pension commissioner upon his own merits and without the aid of friends. He was also appointed a member of the board of surgeons.

Upon the restoration of peace between the north and south Dr. Spooner returned and took up his practice. On October 12, 1875, he was married, the lady to become his wife being Louisa P. Jencks, a native of Rhode Island and the daughter of Alfred and Phoebe (Wilcox) Jencks, Mrs. Spooner being the youngest of their six children. Alfred Jencks was born near Syracuse, New York, and upon coming to Ohio was associated with a railroad promotion company.

Dr. Spooner was a man deeply interested in the progress of the times, and when his attainments are taken into consideration it is by no means a matter of surprise that he found himself in time prominent in politics. He filled numerous offices with distinction, being public spirited and ever holding in view the interests of the whole community. In 1894 he represented his county in the state legislature, and guarded zealously the interests of his constituents.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Spooner were prominent and popular in Masonic circles, the former holding the title of Sir Knight and being a charter member of the local lodge, while the latter was a charter member of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Spooner is likewise one of the valued members of the Women's Relief Corps. She enjoys much esteem in the community, representing the best in American womanhood. She has had exceptional educational advantages, and being a great reader, has kept herself in touch with the progress of events and has at her command a wide fund of information. Wherever she resides is the center of culture and refinement and her influence is ever directed to good ends. Accompanied by her nieces she spends the winter months in Washington D. C., and in travel through the southern states, Republic enjoying her presence during the other seasons.

GEORGE N. YOUNG.—The native born citizens of Seneca county have no finer representative than George N. Young, of Tiffin, who is actively identified with public affairs and is now serving with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of all concerned as county clerk of Seneca county. He was born on a farm in Seneca township, October 11, 1878, a son of Robert and Minerva (Epley) Young, who are now living in Wyandot county.

Brought up on the home farm, George N. Young early became familiar with many of its branches of labor, assisting in its care during the summer seasons and attending the winter terms of the district school until sixteen years old. He subsequently attended the Ohio Normal University at Ada for two years, after which he taught school in Crawfordsville, Ohio, three years, and in Seneca county, near Adrian, for two years. Abandoning teaching as an occupation, Mr. Young in the fall of 1900 embarked in the dry goods business at Bloomville, there continuing in mercantile pursuits for about eight years. Public spirited and progressive, he



became a leading member of the Democratic party and served for some time as corporation treasurer of Bloomville. In 1908 he was elected to his present position as county clerk of Seneca county, and is filling the office with characteristic ability and fidelity.

Fraternally Mr. Young is identified with various prominent orders, being a member of Seneca Lodge, No. 80, I. O. O. F., a member and past chancellor of Pickwick Lodge, No. 175, K. of P., a member of Young America Council, No. 136, Junior Order United American Mechanics; and of Honey Creek Camp, No. 7396, M. W. A., of Bloomville. Religiously he is a member and a steward of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Young married, February 23, 1897, Rosa A. Reiff, who was born and brought up in Seneca county, near Berwick, and into their home three daughters have made their advent, namely: Goldie R., born in September, 1898; Naomi, born in November, 1901; and Fay, born in May, 1906.

Mr. Young is an excellent man of business, enterprising and careful, and he devotes his time and attention to his official duties. He is highly esteemed and very popular in social circles, being what is complimentarily termed a "good mixer."

JOSEPH WILLIAM KUNTZ, who was long a representative farmer in Seneca county, is now living virtually retired in the village of Republic, and here he is recognized as a loyal and public spirited citizen who has contributed in generous measure to all projects advanced for the general welfare of the community. He was born in Hopewell township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 10th of December, 1848, and is a son of Michael and Catherine (Unser) Kuntz, both of whom were born in the great Empire of Germany, whence they emigrated to America when young. The parents of Michael Kuntz came to the United States in 1833, at which time Michael was but thirteen years of age. The family proceeded to Ohio, where they located in Big Spring township, this county, and the eighty acre tract of government land then entered is still in the hands of their descendents. In the heart of the forest they reected a little shack and as time passed and other buildings were needed they considered it a wise thing to construct them in a circle around a certain stump, which was used as a mortar for the grinding of corn meal. This meal constituted the main article of food for the family of six throughout the first winter. Michael was the first born in a family of four children, the others being: Nicholas, Catherine, who became the wife of Samuel Bowser; and Margaret, who married Frank Ulric. All are now deceased. Mr. Kuntz in company with his sons managed to reclaim a fine farm to cultivation and he was an influential factor in public affairs in the community in the early pioneer days. He helped to build the St. Boniface church at New Royal and he was summoned to the life eternal about the year 1904, his cherished and devoted wife, who bore the maiden name of Catherine Reckennatt, having passed away in 1906. Michael Kuntz continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until he had attained to the age of twenty-four years, when he was united in

marriage to Catherine Unser. Her father came to this country with his family on the same boat as did the Kuntz family. They settled in the same neighborhood and as pioneers contributed their quota to the development and progress of this section. Catherine was the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children, her brothers and sisters being, John, Joseph, Mary, Nancy, Eliza and Elizabeth. Michael and Catherine (Unser) Kuntz became the parents of fourteen children, six of whom are now living, namely: Margaret, who married Lewis Zurk, and resides in Indiana; Joseph William, to whom this sketch is dedicated; Michael, of Kirby, Ohio; Julius, who is engaged in agriculture in Hopewell township; Henry, who resides on the old homestead of his mother; and Frank, who maintains his home on the old Kuntz farm. Michael Kuntz had received his early education in the old country and there he had entered upon an apprenticeship at the shoemaker's trade. In 1836 he entered the employ of the Cincinnati & Toledo Canal Company and after working on the canal one year as a day laborer operating a wheel barrow, he was promoted to the position of overseer. He acquired a thorough knowledge of locks and gates and continued in the employ of the company for a period of three years. After his marriage he settled upon a farm in Hopewell township and late in life he removed to Tiffin, where he passed the residue of a long and active career and where his death occurred in 1902. Mrs. Kuntz was summoned to eternal rest in 1906. In his political convictions Mr. Kuntz was originally a Democrat but he later transferred his allegiance to the Republican party. He was ardently devoted to the good of the county and gave efficient service as a member of the school board, served on the county election board and was prominent in various public affairs of a local order. Both he and his wife held membership in the St. Joseph Catholic church.

Joseph W. Kuntz was reared to maturity on the home farm and to the public schools of his native county he is indebted for his preliminary educational training. He remained in the parental home until he had attained to the age of twenty-five years when, in 1873, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth E. Eschenbrenner, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, on the 29th of September, 1852, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Schereck) Eschenbrenner, the former of whom was a native of Germany and the latter of France. Mr. Eschenbrenner was about eighteen years of age when he came to America and his wife was but fourteen years old. After his marriage the Eschenbrenner family and Mr. Kuntz located on a farm near Fostoria, Hancock county, Ohio, and later they removed to Hopewell township, where they continued to operate a finely improved farm until 1907. In that year he established his home in the village of Republic and there he and his wife are now living in the enjoyment of former years of earnest toil and endeavor. In politics he is aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor and he has ever given freely of his aid and influence in support of all measures tending to advance the good of the community. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic

church in Republic, to whose charities and benevolences he has been a liberal contributor. For five years he served as a member of the school board and he is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuntz became the parents of five children, and concerning the three who are now living the following data is here incorporated: Evelyn, who is the wife of Earl Kimmel, of Bloomville, was born on the 25th of November, 1877; Verona, married Lloyd Grosscup, of Republic, and the date of her birth is December 18, 1880; and Wendall, who was born on the 12th of May, 1882, is now residing on his father's farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Scipio township. The two children deceased are, Edward, born June 11, 1874, died November 7, 1896; and one who died in infancy.

HARRY TAGGART.— Noteworthy among the leading citizens of Tiffin is Harry Taggart, who is actively engaged in the abstract business. A former county recorder, he has the unique distinction of being the only Republican ever elected to that office in Seneca county, which is a Democratic stronghold. He was born in Tiffin and received his education in the public schools of this place.

Left fatherless at an early age, Mr. Taggart assumed to a certain extent the support of his widowed mother and three sisters, and in the years that followed proved true to the trust imposed upon him. Beginning his active career as clerk in the shipping department of the old Agricultural Works of Tiffin, he served in that capacity some time and was afterward in the employ of T. J. Kintz for some time, for two years serving under him in the county recorder's office and afterward in his abstract office. Mr. Taggart afterward became proprietor of the abstract business of his former employer, conducting it successfully until 1903.

Prominent in the ranks of the Republican party and popular in all political organizations. Mr. Taggart was the Republican nominee, in 1903, for the office of county recorder, and in November of that year was elected by a majority of four hundred and eighty-five votes. He served so efficiently and ably that at the end of his term, in 1906, he was re-elected to the same position, receiving a majority of eight hundred votes at the polls. Retiring from the office in September, 1909, Mr. Taggart has since been busily employed as an abstracter, having an extensive and remunerative patronage. He never married, but is still caring for his sisters.

Religiously Mr. Taggart is an active and worthy member of the Presbyterian church, of which he is an elder and for seventeen years was clerk of the session.

XENOPHEN F. CHARLES, who since 1899 has been proprietor of a drug, grocery and crockery business, is one of Republic's alert and progressive men. The concern was formerly known as that of Stickney & Dentler, and previous to the above mentioned date for twenty-five years Mr. Charles was associated with them in business. He has filled many public offices efficiently and is well known in this part of the county.



Mr. Charles was born June 12, 1854, and is the son of Jasper E. and Susanna (Grossman) Charles, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio in the April prior to the subject's birth. Jasper Charles, who was a shoemaker by trade, was born March 8, 1825, and in his youth served an apprenticeship at his trade, being bound out for three years. His father, Abraham Charles, died when he was but thirteen years of age, and he made his home with his mother until his twenty-sixth year, when her demise occurred. He married Susanna Grossman at the age of twenty-eight and became the father of six children, of whom the following is an enumeration: Xenophon F., Jasper E., Emma V., Ida May (deceased), John J., and David M. The father of the subject was Democratic in politics, was a natural leader, and held township office frequently. When he first came to the state, in 1849, he drove through with his mother and youngest sister, and located in Clark county, near Springfield, where he remained for about two years. His sister died and he and his mother went back to Pennsylvania, where he married, and in 1854 he came back to the Buckeye state, of which he had received a favorable impression, and located here. However, in 1873 he removed to Indiana, secured a small farm and upon this property remained until summoned to the life eternal.

Xenophon F. Charles remained beneath the home roof until his twenty-first year. In 1874 he concluded to begin life independently and came to Republic, where he secured employment with the firm of Stickney & Dentler. He had received his higher education in the normal school under Professor J. Fraise Richards and he preceded his business career with several years experience as a teacher in district schools in Indiana. His connection with Stickney & Dentler proved most satisfactory, for he was efficient and trustworthy. He was its pillar in times of storm and stress and saved it from bankruptcy when in embarrassed circumstances. In December, 1899, Mr. Charles found himself in a position to buy the business, and its destinies have been in his control ever since that date. Its success has been most gratifying and twenty thousand dollars worth of business is transacted every year.

Mr. Charles was married on Christmas Day, in the year 1877, the lady to become his wife being Flora A. Porter, born October 1, 1850, to John D. and Jane (Roberts) Porter. Her father died when she was a child four years of age and later her mother married Sam S. Dentler, of the firm of Stickney & Dentler. Both of Mrs. Charles' parents were natives of the state of New York and John D. came to Ohio with his parents in pioneer days. They located in this township, on a farm which they cleared and improved. The father subsequently gave up farming and went to Huron county and engaged in the occupation of a plasterer. Later, however, they returned to this township and the father worked at his trade until his untimely death. He and his wife were the parents of three children, Flora being the eldest and the names of her brothers being Vernon and Richard T.

Mr. Charles and his wife have three children: Myra A., born July 5, 1879, is the wife of C. R. Hassenplug and lives at Bellevue;

Mabel T., born November 30, 1883; is situated with the Michigan Trust Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Thurman P., born November 1, 1886, is in Atlanta, Indiana, where he holds the responsible position of superintendent of schools. Mr. Charles is one who realizes the vast importance of good education and all of his children received excellent educational discipline, being graduated from the schools of Republic and from the Tri-State College at Angola, Indiana.

Mrs. Charles is a faithful member of the Disciple church and Mr. Charles has always given financial assistance to the churches of the town. He is a loyal Democrat and his interest in public affairs has already been suggested. He served thirteen years on the school board and at the age of twenty-two held the office of township clerk. He has, indeed, the distinction of having been the first Democratic clerk in the township. For ten years he held the important office of township treasurer and served on the village council several times, at the present time being represented upon that body. Several times he has been a member of the county central committee. He finds great pleasure in his lodge relations with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, having filled all the chairs and served as D. G. M. on more than one occasion. He likewise belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, having been the first councilor of the local organization and several times sent as representative to the state council.

HENRY B. PUFFENBERGER.—A man of talent, possessing natural and acquired mechanical skill and ability, Henry B. Puffenberger, of Tiffin, is rendering excellent service as county surveyor of Seneca county, a position for which he is eminently qualified. A son of John Puffenberger, he was born, August 2, 1855, in Hopewell township, Seneca county, coming from Virginian ancestry.

He is descended from an early pioneer of this part of Ohio; his grandfather, George Puffenberger, having followed the emigrant's trail to Seneca county in 1825. One of the original settlers of Liberty township, he took up wild land in section twenty-eight, erected a log cabin in the midst of the forest, and having by dint of persevering labor cleared and improved a homestead, was there engaged in tilling the soil until his death, in 1850. A whole souled, generous man, he was ever ready to aid new pioneers in their efforts to establish homes for themselves and families, and was especially helpful in the building of the township. He married Catherine Null, who was born in Virginia, a daughter of Jacob and Lucy (Ohler) Null. She survived him, passing away in 1877. Nine children were born of their union.

Born in Frederick county, Virginia, May 27, 1823, John Puffenberger was scarce two years old when brought by his parents to Liberty township, Seneca county. Beginning life as a teamster at the age of thirteen years, he continued thus employed five years. Going then to Cincinnati, he was employed in various kinds of labor, including that of carpentering. Seized with an attack of wanderlust, he went from that city to Kentucky, thence to Tennessee, and ere his return to Seneca county had worked at the

carpenter's trade in seven different states of the Union. He subsequently settled in Hopewell township, and was a resident of Seneca county until his death in 1902.

On November 2, 1854, John Puffenberger married Margaret J. Shaull, who was born, March 8, 1828, in Virginia, and died in Seneca county, Ohio, in 1900. Her father, Bartholomew Shaull, was born August 16, 1797, in Virginia, a son of John and Elizabeth (Benner) Shaull, early settlers of Pleasant township. Bartholomew Shaull migrated to Ohio with his family, settling in Seneca county, where he resided until his death, in 1875. He married Rebecca Blue, a daughter of John and Hannah (O'Nan) Blue. She was born in Virginia, August 3, 1799, and died in Ohio in 1865. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. John Puffenberger, as follows: Henry B., the special subject of this brief sketch; Rebecca C., wife of Solomon Srudes; Alice J., wife of John Anderson; H. V. J. and S. A. D., twins; J. S.; and Jessie B.

Brought up beneath the parental roof-tree, Henry B. Puffenberger had a practical training in the various branches of agriculture while young, and in the district school, which he attended during the winter terms until eighteen years old, he laid a substantial foundation for his future education. He subsequently continued his studies for three years at Heidelberg College, after which he taught school nine successive winters, during the summer seasons working at the carpenter's trade. Taking up the study of civil engineering, he became proficient in the profession, and during the past fifteen years has done a great deal of private surveying. In November, 1908, Mr. Puffenberger was elected county surveyor of Seneca county, and since taking the office, in September, 1909, has performed the duties devolving upon him most satisfactorily. He is a natural mechanic, possessing much inventive genius, and has made a level of his own, an instrument that is both practical and useful.

Mr. Puffenberger married, in August, 1901, Alwilda Brown, who was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, December 25, 1863. Their only child, James B. Puffenberger, was born November 9, 1903. Politically Mr. Puffenberger is affiliated with the Democratic party.

WILLIAM M. SHAFFER.—One of the foremost citizens of Tiffin and an able business man, William M. Shaffer has served with credit to himself and to the honor of his constituents in various offices of trust and responsibility, at the present time, 1910, being county treasurer of Seneca county. A son of Joseph Shaffer, he was born, October 23, 1851, in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. Born, reared and educated in Pennsylvania, Joseph Shaffer began life for himself a poor man, but by means of persistent industry and thrift built up a substantial business as a shoe manufacturer and dealer accumulating a comfortable property. He married Amelia Romig, also a native of the Keystone state, and the thirteen children born of their union are all living, a family of stalwart sons and fair daughters of whom any one might well be proud.

Brought up in Cedarville, Pennsylvania, William M. Shaffer



attended the public schools until eighteen years of age, acquiring a practical education. Working in the meanwhile at the bench with his father, he learned the trade of a shoemaker, and on attaining his majority went to Allentown, the county seat of Lehigh county, and was there a resident about four years. In 1876, his health failing, Mr. Shaffer came to Ohio, locating at Flat Rock, Thompson township, Seneca county, to recuperate. His physical strength improving, he secured employment at the Evangelical Orphans' Home, where for eight years he filled any position requiring his services. Proving himself so capable, he was then made assistant superintendent of the institution, at the same time serving as one of its directors.

Retiring from that position, Mr. Shaffer purchased a general store at Flat Rock, and was there engaged successfully in mercantile pursuits until February, 1892. Coming then to Tiffin, he entered the sheriff's office and served as deputy sheriff until 1895, a term of three years. Buying then an interest in Romig's store, he was here a general merchant until November, 1896, when he was elected sheriff of Seneca county, a position which he filled satisfactorily until January, 1901. Having in the meantime retained his interest in the store, Mr. Shaffer again engaged in the shoe business, which he conducted until November, 1905. He was then elected treasurer of Seneca county, and in the discharge of the duties of his office showed such financial and executive ability that he was re-elected to the same responsible position in 1907, and is still county treasurer.

Mr. Shaffer married, in October, 1882, Louisa Williman, who was born in Van Wert county, Ohio, and they are the parents of two children, namely: W. W. C., born March 5, 1885, employed in the shoe department of Taylor & Company at Cleveland, Ohio; and Rama R., born September 29, 1888, a graduate of the Tiffin High School and the Tiffin Business College and now a clerk in the office of the county treasurer.

An active and influential member of the Democratic party, Mr. Shaffer has been a delegate to conventions and has served on committees of importance. Fraternally he is a member of Tiffin Lodge, No. 175, K. of P., and of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

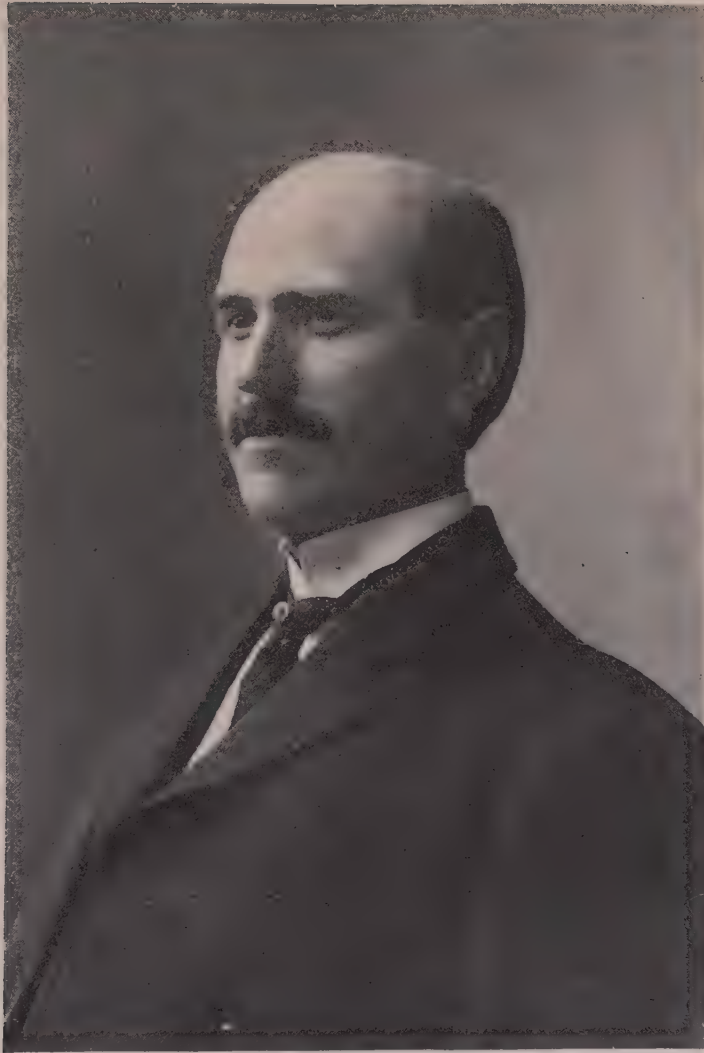
EUGENE W. ALLEN.—In this age of colossal enterprise and marked intellectual energy the prominent and successful men are those whose abilities lead them into large undertakings and to assume the responsibilities and labors of leaders in their respective fields of endeavor, and it is certain that success is but the result of the determined application of individual energies and powers along the rigidly defined lines of labor, whether mental or physical. The subject of this brief sketch holds precedence as one of the substantial business men and influential citizens of the city of Fostoria, where his capitalistic interests are of diversified and of important order, and he has contributed a generous quota to the industrial and civic advancement of his home city, where he holds an impregnable vantage ground in popular confidence and esteem. Here he is





RESIDENCE OF E. W. ALLEN





*E. W. Allen*



closely associated with financial and manufacturing enterprises of broad scope and importance, and he merits consideration in this publication as one of the thoroughly representative citizens of Seneca county.

Mr. Allen claims the stanch old Hoosier commonwealth as the place of his nativity. He was born at Wolf Lake, Noble county, Indiana, on the 4th of June, 1864, and is a son of Felton and Susan (Childs) Allen. The Allen family was early founded in the southeastern section of Pennsylvania, from which state Daniel Allen, grandfather of the subject of this review, emigrated to Indiana and numbered himself among the pioneers of Noble county, where he reclaimed a farm from the wilderness and where he continued to reside until his death. Both he and his noble wife were members of the Society of Friends, and their lives were guided and governed according to the simple and gracious teachings of this organization. Felton Allen was born and reared in Noble county, Indiana, where for many years he owned and conducted a large and well improved farm. He devoted much attention to the raising of and dealing in live stock and was one of the leading representatives of this line of industry in that state. His wife was a native of Virginia and was a child at the time of her parents' removal to Noble county, Indiana. Her father became the owner of a large tract of land near Wolf Lake, that county, and was one of the honored and influential citizens of the community.

Eugene W. Allen was reared under the vitalizing and grateful influences of the home farm and early began to assist in its work and management, the while he duly availed himself of the advantages of the public schools of the locality and period. He continued to maintain his home in Indiana until 1893, and had already shown his fine constructive and initiative powers in connection with business affairs. In the year mentioned he came to Seneca county and established his home in Fostoria, where he became one of the interested principals in the organization of the Peabody Buggy Company, of which J. B. Peabody was made president. In 1895 Mr. Allen and his brother Warren O., purchased Mr. Peabody's interest in the enterprise, and he thereupon became president and treasurer of the company, while his brother assumed the office of vice president and secretary. Under their able management the business has been developed from modest proportions until it is now one of the extensive and important industrial enterprises of the city and county. The transactions of this company now reach a business involving hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, and its trade extends into the most diverse sections of the union. In the well equipped plant employment is afforded to a large force of men, and thus the enterprise contributes in a direct way to the civic as well as the industrial prosperity of the city.

Mr. Allen initiated his association with banking interests in Fostoria in July, 1899. He was one of the leading factors in the transforming of the old Mechanics' Savings Bank Company into the Mechanics' Banking Company, of which he became cashier. Under his effective management as an executive the institution was signally prospered, and under the same title a branch was estab-



lished at Bradner, this county, where the enterprise is still conducted under the title noted. In 1908 the bank in Fostoria was re-organized and received its charter as the Union National Bank, which is incorporated with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars, all paid in, and of this institution Mr. Allen is vice president, being closely associated with its executive management and having done much to direct its policies in such a way as to make it one of the substantial and popular banking houses of the state. The deposits of the bank now aggregate fully seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and its assets nine hundred thousand dollars. William Manecke is president, Mr. Allen is vice president and George A. Snyder is cashier of the institution. The full personnel of its directorate is here indicated: William Manecke, William J. Wagner, Warren O. Allen, L. R. Parker, A. Mennel, Eugene W. Allen, Walter C. Beckwith, L. J. Eshelman, Ira Cadwallader, Frank D. Kingseed, Hugo Scherer, Mahlon A. Thomas and Elias Fox.

Mr. Allen is a director of the Mechanics' Banking Company of Bradner, also of the Ashland Bank and Savings Company, of Ashland, Ohio, and of the City National Bank of Tiffin, Ohio, besides which he is interested in a number of other important business enterprises in his home city. He has valuable holdings in the oil district of this state. The following appreciative words are well worthy of perpetuation in this sketch, as they represent the estimate of one familiar with the career of Mr. Allen: "He is a generous contributor to all movements for the social, intellectual, material and moral benefit of the community and Fostoria numbers him among her valued citizens." He has made good use of his opportunities and has prospered from year to year. He has conducted all business matters care fully and prudently and has shown not only distinctive administrative and constructive ability, but has also guided and governed his course according to the most inviolable principles of integrity and honor. He has not permitted the accumulation of wealth to affect in any way his attitude toward those less successful, and he always has a cheerful word and pleasant smile for all with whom he comes in contact. He has a high sense of stewardship and an abiding sympathy for all sorts and conditions of men, a sympathy that is one of helpfulness as well as of sentiment."

In politics, while never seeking the honors or emoluments of public office, Mr. Allen is found aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party, and he keeps well informed in connection with the questions and issues of the hour, so that he is well fortified in his opinions as to matters of public polity. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and both he and his wife are numbered among the zealous and earnest members of the First Presbyterian church of Fostoria, of whose board of trustees he has served as a member for about ten years. He has been a most effective and valued worker in the various departments of church activity and is an officer in the Sunday school. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are identified with the best social activities of the community and their attractive home is a recognized center of gracious hospitality.

On the 15th of February, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Allen to Miss Mary Leonard, a daughter of C. Clark Leonard, a representative business man and influential citizen of Fostoria. Mrs. Allen was born at Fostoria, Ohio, and after due preliminary education along literary lines she entered the celebrated New England Conservatory of Music, in the city of Boston, in which she completed courses in both music and elocution and in which she was graduated as a member of the class of 1897. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have two daughters, Clara Louise, aged ten, and Mary Winifred, aged eight years.

JOSEPH R. DROWN.—A well known factor in the many sided life of Pleasant township is Joseph R. Drown, who is entitled to particular consideration as a progressive agriculturist, a Civil war veteran who gave cheerful and faithful service to his country in her greatest hour of need, a good church man, and one whose record in public office is unimpeachable. Joseph R. Drown is a native of Erie county, Pennsylvania, where his eyes first opened to the light of day December 22, 1835. The parents of Mr. Drown were Solomon and Fannie (Dennis) Drown, natives of New Hampshire and Maine, respectively, the former's father, John Drown, being of English descent and a farmer by occupation. They were married in the state of New York and one year after the birth of him whose name initiates this sketch they came on to the newer state of Ohio and bought land in Adams township, Seneca county.

Joseph R. Drown resided under the home roof until he was about twenty-five years of age, or about the year 1859 or 1860. He had been educated in the district schools and at Republic under those well remembered educators, T. W. Harvey and Aaron Schuyler and he was at the date mentioned the possessor of an eight years' experience as a school teacher, his pedagogical activities having begun at about the age of eighteen years. His career was interrupted by the breaking out of the Civil war, and his enlistment under the Union flag was made in the month of May, 1864, as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. His immediate officers were Captain Huntzberger and Colonel Whistler.

During the period of the conflict between the states Mr. Drown was united in marriage to Miss Mary J. Bowersox, their union being celebrated in the month of February, 1864, at Tiffin, Ohio. She was born October 31, 1843, the daughter of Jacob and Susan Gettinger Bowersox, natives of Maryland, who came here about the year 1836 or 1837 and located on the farm which is still owned by the subject, it having at that early day virtually been reclaimed from the wilderness.

In the matter of making a choice of a life work Mr. Drown followed in the footsteps of his ancestors and secured some two hundred of the fair and fertile acres of Seneca county as his own. His industry and thrift and the assistance of his faithful wife and helpmeet have been rewarded and he stands as one of the veteran and substantial citizens of the section. His three children are all residing in Pleasant township, secure in the enjoyment of the

respect of all who know them best. Charles C. Drown, the eldest child and only son, was born May 19, 1866, received his education in the district school and at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, and is engaged in the hardware business at Old Fort, in whose affairs he plays a prominent part, being in truth one of the most widely known men in Seneca county. Zua was born June 23, 1868, and is the wife of Gibson Barto of Pleasant township. She, like her brother, was educated in Heidelberg College. Mary A., born May 16, 1879, is the wife of Frank Hover, of Pleasant township.

In his political faith Mr. Drown is Republican, giving enthusiastic support to the men and measures of the Republican party. He is the friend of good education and it was due to the efforts of several such as he that the adoption of the present excellent school system in this township was brought about. His public service includes several years as township trustee and member of the board of education. Among those additional interests which engage his attention is the Mutual Telephone Company, of which he is a director.

CHARLES C. DROWN.—A man much esteemed in the community, whose support is always given to just causes and whose career as a business man, has been marked by prosperity, progress and honorable dealing is Charles C. Drown. Mr. Drown has not always been in business, but has had some experience as an agriculturist and in his youth for a time followed the profession of a teacher in the district schools. He was born May 19, 1866, in Pleasant township, Seneca county, and is the son of Joseph R. and Mary J. (Bowersox) Drown, natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland respectively. Mr. Drown received his education in the district school and at Heidelberg College and then began upon his career of two years in the pedagogical capacity. After his marriage he and his bride located upon property in Pleasant township but in 1897 found it expedient to give up farming and took up the hardware business, building up one of the largest trades in the county, amounting to over \$18,000 per year. This unqualified success has come through his own efforts, for he is a man of indomitable purpose and great executive ability. He is in truth one of the most prominent citizens of Pleasant township and his prosperity has contributed materially to that of the whole community.

Mr. Drown resided upon the homestead of his parents until his marriage to Ella J. Snyder which was solemnized December 14, 1892, the parents of Mrs. Drown being Bartlett and Mary M. (Whitmire) Snyder. She was born March 16, 1866, and received her education in the district schools and Heidelberg College. She taught for five or six years in this and Clinton townships and her efforts in the training of the youthful mind were both conscientious and successful. She is German in extraction, her parents, Bartlett and Mary M. Snyder, having come here from Bavaria, in the early days with their parents, their residence in this country having been of about seventy years duration. The father was born December 26, 1821, and the mother September 19, 1829. After reaching America they finally drifted out to Ohio and located on land south



of Tiffin. They were married after their parents had settled in Ohio, the year in which their union took place being 1850 and nine children were born to them, namely: Sarah, Mary, John, Lizzie, Louisa, Eva, Anna, Calle and Ella, Mrs. Drown being the youngest of eight daughters.

Few men take a more lively and none a more intelligent interest in public matters, than Charles C. Drown. He is a Republican, but is independent insofar that he is willing to vote for the best man to fill an office no matter what party he represents, principle weighing more with him than mere partisanship. That he is the friend of good education has been recognized generally and for ten years he has given valuable service as a member of the school board. He is a member of the Reformed church and takes an active part in its affairs, contributing generously to its support and advancing in every way all the good causes promulgated by it. That he finds time and strength for anything aside from his large business is an evidence of his unusual energy and his many friends and admirers attest that whatever he attempts, whether a campaign for the increase of trade, the putting through of a beneficial educational movement, the strengthening of the church body, etc., is well and capably done. Mr. and Mrs. Drown have one child, a daughter just growing to young womanhood, named Mary O., whose birth date was April 21, 1894, and whose education has been completed as far as the Old Fort high school.

A sketch of Mr. Drown's venerable father, Joseph R. Drown, including data concerning his sisters, Ina and Mary A., occurs on other pages of this volume, whose mission is to chronicle the parentage and deeds of all such good and valuable citizens.

DAVID D. HILSINGER.—Few men are better or more favorably known in Seneca county than David D. Hilsinger, one of the prosperous and progressive members of the agricultural class and a man who has figured to a considerable extent in public life. He is a native of the county which still claims his residence and his birth date is shared by one George Washington, his eyes having first opened to the light of day, February 22, 1867. He is a son of Joseph and Catherine (Smith) Hilsinger, who were married in 1861. The father was born in Ohio, January 20, 1841, and the mother was born November 22, 1839. The latter was the daughter of David and Susan (Neikirk) Smith and the eldest of twelve children, all of whom lived to reach full manhood and womanhood. She departed this life August 31, 1909. Joseph and Catherine Hilsinger became the parents of five children: David D., Nora S., Lottie M. (deceased), Calvin J. and Clara B.

The grandfather, whose name also was Joseph Hilsinger, was born in the Black Forest of Germany. Living was rather meager and wonderful tales of the riches and opportunity of the new world reached his parents' ears and they started off for Amsterdam to take the ship which would carry them to this "Land of Promise." Alas, upon arriving in the city, they found that the ship had sailed and that there would be a long interval before another one. The father concluded to remain in the city until the next departure, but the wife and children set out again for the Black Forest, making

the journey on foot. On the way the mother died and the children went on to the old home alone. The father remained in Amsterdam and the son, Joseph, (Mr. Hilsinger's grandfather) apprenticed himself to a clock and watch maker and later came to America, the year of his emigration being 1825. He came with two other men and upon arriving in Philadelphia Joseph's companions appropriated most of the tools and stock and left without leaving their address. Ruefully he packed what was left and went on to Allentown, where he established himself in the jeweler's business in a small way. He afterward married Mary Rairich, of Leigh county Pennsylvania. He subsequently came on to Scipio township, Seneca county, Ohio, where he secured farming property and lived upon it until his death. He and his wife were the parents of three children, Joseph Jr., being the youngest, and the others being named, Harrison and Sarah. Joseph senior's sister was left in Germany, married one of her own countrymen and lived the rest of her life in her native country.

David D. Hilsinger passed his early years upon his father's farm and received a good education, attending the district schools, the Academy of Fostoria and Heidelberg College at Tiffin. When he was eighteen years of age he began teaching and acted in the capacity of a pedagogue for eight winter terms, his educational work giving the highest satisfaction. About the time of his marriage he launched out independently as a farmer, and he now manages an estate of two hundred and thirty acres of fine land. Last year he built upon his farm the largest stock barn in northern Ohio, this being eighty by eighty-seven feet, with a basement under the whole affair with the exception of a space of eighteen by fifty in one corner. He engages in general farming and stock raising, being thoroughly successful in the latter line. He raises thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle and Delaine sheep, having from twenty to twenty-five head of cattle and about one hundred head of sheep.

In 1893 Mr. Hilsinger entered the hardware business in connection with his brother-in-law, B. D. Wyant, and located in the town of Republic, where he and his family now reside. They conduct a very thriving business.

On December 23, 1890, Mr. Hilsinger laid the foundation of an ideally happy married life by his union with Alice M. DeWitt, born in May, 1867, and the daughter of Samuel H. and Catherine (Miller) DeWitt, both of whom are natives of the Keystone state. In 1831 the DeWitts located in Marion county and in 1837 settled in Clinton township, Seneca county. At that date the land was dense forest, which they proceeded to clear, their property becoming one of the finest thereabout. During the gold fever period (in 1848) Samuel DeWitt with Jacob Miller and others went to California, and they were among the minority who found success awaiting them. Mr. DeWitt died a man of means, among other properties leaving three hundred and twenty acres of land. Mr. and Mrs. Hilsinger are the parents of two daughters, Veda Mae, born October 15, 1896, and Vera Dae, May 30, 1898, and both being in attendance at the schools of Republic.

Mr. Hilsinger, in the matter of politics, has Democratic in-

elinations, but he is sufficiently independent to esteem the right man for the office above mere partisanship. He has given efficient public service, having been township clerk for eight years, and also having been a member of the school board, while at the present time he is clerk of the township school board. He is a charter member of the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics. His grandfather, Joseph Hilsinger, whose life was briefly sketched above, was one of the township's prominent men and took an active and intelligent interest in the affairs of the township and county. As early as 1876 Mr. Hilsinger remembers his grandfather predicting that in time the moneyed interests would control the country and Mr. Hilsinger believes that subsequent events have proved his honored forbear to have been a true prophet. The elder man was an unfaltering Democrat and a great reader and he kept well in touch with the issues of the day. The year 1878 witnessed the termination of a life of great usefulness and honor.

OLIVER S. WATSON.—For many years one of the leading agriculturists of Seneca county, Oliver S. Watson accumulated a handsome property and is now enjoying a well deserved leisure in the city of Tiffin, having a pleasant and attractive home at No. 36 Clinton avenue. A son of the late James S. Watson, he was born on a farm in Pleasant township, Seneca county, November 11, 1843. James S. Watson was born and reared in Pennsylvania, and there married Mary Saltsman. He came to Seneca county in 1835 for the first time, his wife, however, not coming until 1841. Of their seven children, six were living in 1910.

Completing his early education in the Western Reserve Normal School, Oliver S. Watson was engaged in professional work for nine years, being a most successful teacher. He subsequently turned his attention to farming, and still owns a valuable estate of two hundred and three and one-half acres, which is devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Watson married, December 22, 1875, Flora A. Titus, a daughter of the late Hon. R. R. Titus, a native of Connecticut. Mr. Titus was a typical New England man, well educated, possessing sound sense and superior judgment, and was quite successful as a farmer. He was influential in public affairs and represented Seneca county in the state legislature during the troublous times of the Civil war. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Elvira Clark, four daughters were born, all of whom are now living, as follows: Augusta, wife of F. J. Fry; Calena, wife of A. L. Abbott; Lettie L., wife of R. H. Watson; and Flora A., wife of Oliver S. Watson, the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Watson received excellent educational advantages, after leaving the public schools attending the Fremont High School and Heidelberg College.

Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Watson, namely: Paul T., born November 3, 1883; and Inez, born May 24, 1890. Paul T. Watson was graduated from the Tiffin High School, and after continuing his studies for two years at the Ohio Medical College took a business course at Oberlin College. He married



Clemence Hubbard, a daughter of the Hon. R. Hubbard, former member of the state legislature. Inez Watson, also a graduate of the Tiffin High School, is now, in 1910, a student at Adelbert College, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. Mrs. Watson is also an extensive landholder, owning three hundred and eighty-eight acres of rich and fertile land. She is an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and regent of Dollie Todd Madison Chapter. Politically Mr. Watson is a Democrat, and has been a member of the board of public service in the city of Tiffin. Both he and his wife belong to the Presbyterian church.

JACOB A. METZGER.—In America with its unrest and constant change it is indeed a pleasant and interesting exception to the general rule to find a home remaining the seat of a family for three or four generations. This, however, is the case of the Metzger family, Jacob A. Metzger, one of its representatives, and one of the representative farmers of Adams township, living upon land which was originally entered by his great-grandfather. His ancestors some of them came from Pennsylvania, making the journey through many dangers on horseback, blazing a way through the forest primeval and snatching the necessary sleep to the dismal accompaniment of the howling of wolves and hooting of owls.

Jacob A. Metzger is thus of pure American stock. He was born June 13, 1877, in the township of Venice, and is the son of H. V. and Elizabeth (Petticord) Metzger. His father was born in Adams township in 1847, and his grandparents were Daniel and Sarah (Whiteman) Metzger, the latter being a daughter of that well remembered pioneer, Daniel Whiteman, who was among the first to enter land in Seneca county, the original parchment giving him a right to the land bearing the signature of President Andrew Jackson. The Petticord family was originally of Maryland and they upon their identification with Ohio became large land owners and men and women whose citizenship was above reproach, their hand being ever given to good causes, such as religion and education, in which respect they resembled the Metzgers. The parents of the subject were married November 8, 1866, and located upon a farm on the Clyde road inherited by the mother. They lived there a number of years, made several changes, among them a removal to Fulton county, but eventually came back to the old homestead upon which they still reside. He whose name initiates this article was one of six children. Homer is a resident of Clyde, where he engages in the practice of the law; Burton is identified with the fortunes of Adams township; Charles is deceased; Eva resides in Henry county; and Leroy is a citizen of Fremont, Ohio. A detailed sketch of the lives of these worthy people is contained upon other pages of this work.

Jacob A. Metzger was educated in the district schools of the township, afterward attending Heidelberg College at Tiffin and securing a commercial education in a business college in Sandusky. He completed his training in 1903, and having meantime come to the conclusion to adopt that honorable calling which so many of

his forbears had represented, he engaged in the cultivation of the Metzger acres. Previous to this, however, he had taught several terms of school in Seneca county and his services in a pedagogical capacity had been much esteemed, his education and intelligence making him ideally fitted for the guidance of the youthful mind. He engages in general farming and has been very successful. He now owns the original homestead and resides there.

Mr. Metzger is a Democrat and has been well known in connection with public life. He is the present assessor. Like all good citizens he keeps in touch of the issues of the day and is well informed on all subjects pertaining to the welfare of the whole community.

The marriage of Mr. Metzger was celebrated December 21, 1904, the lady to become his wife being Miss Alma Loose. She was born June 22, 1885, her parents being William and Marguerite (Bickle) Loose, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Ohio about the year 1869, locating upon an eighty acre farm in Thompson township. William Loose gives allegiance to the Democratic party and is of the Dunkard faith. Mrs. Metzger was educated in the district schools. Mr. and Mrs. Metzger have one child, a son, named Forest V., born July 2, 1908.

SILAS W. BAKER.—Born and reared in Clinton township, his birth occurring February 2, 1856, on the farm where he has spent his entire life, Silas W. Baker is an honored representative of the early pioneers of Seneca county and a true type of the energetic, hardy and enterprising men who have actively assisted in the development of this fertile and productive agricultural region. His father, the late F. A. Baker, was born in Frederick county, Maryland, and when quite young came to Ohio, locating in Seneca county. He married in Clinton township Ann C. Holts, also a native of Frederick county, Maryland, and began life for himself on the farm now owned and occupied by his son Silas. He was there prosperously engaged in cultivating the soil until his death, June 5, 1885. His wife survived him, passing away January 12, 1891. They were the parents of three children, as follows: Jennie, wife of N. J. Gaumer, of Clinton township; Rosa, wife of B. A. Parmeter, of Adams township; and Silas W., the subject of this brief personal record.

Profiting by the educational advantages offered him when young, Silas W. Baker attended the district schools as a boy and youth, continuing as a pupil during the winter terms until eighteen years of age. Choosing the congenial occupation to which he was reared, he eventually succeeded to the ownership of the parental acres, which under his intelligent management are now highly cultivated and well improved. He is a systematic and thorough farmer, and is meeting with well merited success in his agricultural operations.

Mr. Baker married, November 29, 1881, Hattie L. Miller, who was born in Pleasant township, Seneca county, December 9, 1861. Her father, Andrew J. Miller, a native of New York state, came to Ohio when young, locating in Seneca county. He married Anna

M. Morton, who was born in Tiffin, Ohio, and he now resides on the old Morton homestead in Pleasant township. Mrs. Miller died on the homestead August 22, 1896. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Baker, namely: Maud, whose birth occurred February 23, 1883; Ollie, born July 18, 1884, is the wife of J. P. Stover; and Ruth, born August 1, 1895. For thirty-five years Mr. Baker has been a member of the local Grange, to which Mrs. Baker also belongs. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, and is now a member of the Clinton township school board.

ELMER E. EMERY is a native of Seneca county, and has spent forty-three years on his present homestead, during which time he has seen remarkable progress in this part of Ohio and has contributed to the same in the capacity of a public spirited citizen and an agriculturist of advanced methods. He was born November 7, 1851, in Henry county, Ohio, and is the son of Horace and Mary R. (West) Emery, the former a native of Rockland, Maine, and the mother of Vermont. Horace Emery, who was born February 4, 1821, and died November 14, 1908, was the son of Tristram and Lidy Emery. Mary Emery, who was born September 17, 1818, and died April 18, 1909, at the age of ninety-one years, was the daughter of Ezra and Prudence West, who cast their fortunes with the Buckeye state early in the nineteenth century. After their marriage Mr. Emery's parents located on a farm in Seneca county, near Tiffin, later removing to Adams township and taking up land near Greenspring, where the father also pursued the vocation of a blacksmith.

Mr. Emery resided under the home roof until his marriage, enjoying the educational advantages of the schools of Andrews township and becoming proficient in the several branches of the honorable calling of agriculture. On December 6, 1876, he was wedded to Mary E. Jopp and shortly thereafter they removed to Hedgetown, Ohio, where they established their household and remained for about five years, after which they removed to their present home, where they have ever since resided. Their farm, cleared by them, is a valuable property, comprising some one hundred acres. Mr. Emery is a Republican and he has held various township offices, among them that of school director and committee of the election board of Seneca county, and he was a member of the school board for several years. He finds much pleasure in his affiliation with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which organization he has filled all of the chairs.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery have given seven good citizens to the country, in the persons of six sons and one daughter. Charles E., the eldest, was born December 28, 1877, he married Nellie White-man December 7, 1901, and they have three children: Holice, Florence and Robert. The second son, Asahel W., born April 3, 1880, married Jennie Holly, February 23, 1909, and resides in Chicago; Elbert C., born January 3, 1883, married Bessie Whited in the year 1905, and they have one child, a little daughter named Irene, born May 1, 1908; George N., born September 6, 1885, took as his wife Nettie Mead on October 14, 1908, and they have one son,



named Harold, born August 24, 1910; Orm J., born July 27, 1888; Mabel L., born September 6, 1892, and Frederick L., born March 20, 1895, all are at home.

Mr. Emery's maternal grandfather Ezra West, was born March 3, 1770, and his wife Prudence had her nativity on the same day. Their children were Samuel McGee West, born May 30, 1813; James Henry West, March 26, 1816; Mary R. West, September 17, 1818; Sarah West, September 10, 1820; Asahel West, February 26, 1823; John S. West, April 7, 1825; Nathan C. West, June 1, 1828; Mabel M. West, November 29, 1833; Clementine West, April 6, 1837. Of these the daughter, Mary, married Mr. Horace Emery, and the following eight children were the issue of the union: Cordelia, born January 20, 1845; Elizabeth A., born November 18, 1846; Samuel N., born April 24, 1849; Mr. Emery; Mabel S., born February 12, 1854; Charles N., born September 7, 1856; William J., born December 16, 1858; and Ella C., born December 7, 1864.

Mrs. Emery's parents were Orrin and Mary A. (McIntyre) Jopp, the former born August 17 and the latter, May 16, 1822, both of them being natives of the state of New York. After their marriage, December 12, 1853, they located on a two hundred acre farm in Pleasant township and here their two daughters were reared, grew to womanhood and married. Mary E., became the wife of the subject of this biography and Eva married William Horton and resides in Pleasant township.

JOHN R. BRADNER.—The present able and popular mayor of the city of Fostoria is well upholding the prestige that has been one of prominence in connection with the history of Seneca county for nearly a half century. He is one of the influential citizens and representative business men of his native city and as its chief executive is fostering all municipal interests with the same scrupulous care and fidelity as did his honored father, who was incumbent of the same office for a period of six years and who is the subject of a special memoir on other pages of this work, so that further reference to the family history is not demanded in the present connection.

John R. Bradner, the youngest in the family of nine children, was born in the city of Fostoria on the 15th of January, 1875, and is a son of John A. and Catherine E. (Phillips) Bradner. After completing the curriculum of the public schools, including the high school, Mr. Bradner continued his studies in the Fostoria Academy, of this city, for two years, after which he engaged in reading law for a number of years. He has been engaged in the real estate and insurance business in Fostoria since 1894 and is one of the leading representatives of these important lines of enterprise in Seneca county. He is well informed concerning the value of real estate in this section of Ohio and has handled many important property interests, in connection with which he has negotiated deals that have involved heavy investments. The insurance department of his business is one of most prosperous order and he does a large amount of underwriting each year, as representative of several of the standard life and fire insurance companies.

Mr. Bradner has at all times shown a lively and loyal interest in all that touches the welfare of his home city and county and lends his aid and co-operation in furtherance of all measures and enterprises tending to conserve the best interests of the community. He is aligned as an uncompromising advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party and from 1896 to 1901 he served as constable of Loudon township, Seneca county. From 1901 to 1906 he was incumbent of the office of justice of the peace and he has served as mayor of his native city since 1910, giving an administration that has met with the unqualified popular approval. He is affiliated with the Home Guards, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of the Maccabees, the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics, the Knights of Pythias and the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is an associate member. Both he and his wife hold membership in the United Brethren church.

On the 16th of October, 1906, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Bradner to Miss Laura M. Earl, who was born in Wood county, this state, and who is the daughter of Leroy Earl, now a representative citizen of Fostoria. Mr. and Mrs. Bradner have six children, J. Alonzo, Earl Milton, Virgil C., Harry R., Leroy J. and Catherine L.

JOHN A. BRADNER.—By the death of this honorable and upright citizen Fostoria and Seneca county, and indeed the state of Ohio, sustained an irreparable loss and were deprived of the presence of one who had come to be looked upon as a guardian and friend. Death often removes from our midst those whom we can ill afford to lose, those whose lives have been exemplar of the true and good and who are therefore really great citizens. Such a man was John Alonzo Bradner, whose entire career, both business and social, served as an inspiration to the aged and as a model to the young. His work as a member of the legal profession, and more especially as a railroad builder, was of the greatest benefit to the state, and his usefulness and general benevolence he created a memory whose perpetuation does not depend upon sculptured stone or elaborate mortuary crypt, but rather upon the spontaneous and freewill offering of a grateful and enlightened people. His connection with Fostoria's development and growth and with the cumulative work of material improvement was largely instrumental in placing the city in the proud position it today occupies.

Mr. Bradner was born August 13, 1833, at Niagara Falls, New York, a son of William and Laura (Everingham) Bradner. He spent his early life in the place of his nativity, pursued his education in the Lewiston Academy, and in 1849 removed with his parents to Perry township, Wood county, Ohio. His father established a store at West Mill Grove and he became a salesman therein. After clerking for six years he bought the store from his father and for two years carried on the enterprise individually. In 1859 he removed to Fremont, Sandusky county, where he was manager of a warehouse for the ensuing four years. In March, 1863, Mr. Bradner arrived in Fostoria, where he established a warehouse and

stove business, conducting the same with adequate success for a period of nine years, or until 1872, when the demands made upon his attention by other business enterprises caused him to dispose of the store to devote his entire time to the development of other interests.

For thirty-five years Mr. Bradner was engaged in railroad building. He aided in securing the right of way, and was engaged in the construction of the Hocking Valley, the Ohio Central and the Nickel Plate Railroads; and he also took the contract for the construction of nineteen miles of the old Mansfield, Coldwater and Lake Michigan Railroad and thirty-five miles of the Clover Leaf Railroad. Thus, as a railroad contractor, he was closely associated with the work of improvement, for no other one agency has so direct or so important bearing upon the upbuilding and progress of a country as the introduction of railroads. He also secured the right of way for the Toledo, Fostoria & Findlay Electric Railroad, and at the time of his death he was the secretary and treasurer and the general manager of the Ohio & Northwestern Electric Railroad. In the winter of 1900-01 he secured for this corporation the right of way from Fostoria to Jerry City, and while engaged in that work was taken ill, passing away on the 9th of July, 1901, at the age of sixty-eight years.

When the state had been largely supplied with railroads for transportation by the power of steam, his progressive spirit led him to take up the new methods of travel by the aid of electrical power, and thus he was associated with the upbuilding of interurban lines. This, however, did not comprise the extent of Mr. Bradner's connection with business interests. He macadamized the principal streets of Fostoria; was engaged in the stone and lime business, having been a large stockholder and president of the Fostoria Stone and Lime Company; was one of the organizers of the first gas company here; and in all ways was known as a progressive, public spirited and influential citizen. He was a man of keen sagacity, capable of looking beyond the exigencies of the moment to the possibilities of the future. He labored not alone for himself or for his own generation but also for posterity, for through many years to come his efforts will benefit those who follow him. His interests were of important order and of great magnitude, and although his business career was so successful as to seem almost phenomenal, it but represented the fit utilization of his powers along the lines where mature judgment led the way, and his prosperity was the result of his own efforts. While he was engaged in building the Hocking Valley Railroad Mr. Bradner was associated with Mr. Ransom Crocker in the founding and platting of a town in Wood county, located on the line of this railroad, and the same was named in honor of the subject of this memoir. Bradner is now a very attractive and prosperous town of about two thousand population, being located in the center of the oil belt and having before it an unmistakably auspicious future.

On the 3rd of March, 1856, Mr. Bradner was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Phillips, a daughter of Samuel and Sarah Phillips, of Jerry City, Ohio, and unto them were born the follow-



ing named children: Catherine, the eldest, is the wife of Samuel Lynn, of Toledo; May, became the wife of Pliny Jones, of Fostoria, and is now deceased; Rosa, who was the wife of Brice M. Stout, of Fostoria, is likewise deceased; Martin, who was editor of the *Evening News*, of Fostoria, died at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving a wife and two children, John A. and Frederick; Jessie, is the wife of Edward Cooper, of Denver, Colorado; Franc, is the wife of Frank Stout, a furniture dealer in Fostoria, which city likewise continues to be the home of one other son, John R.; and Harry E., now resides in Fremont, Ohio.

In addition to all his other interests John A. Bradner studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1879, and he became the first city solicitor of Fostoria. For twenty-one years he was incumbent of the office of justice of the peace, and his rulings were ever fair and impartial. He served for seven consecutive terms in that office in Loudon township, and was elected for the eighth term. For six years he was the mayor of Fostoria, and his executive duties were so ably and faithfully performed that one could readily have believed that he had no extraneous interests and was giving his entire time to the interests and administration of the municipal government. He was a man remarkable in the breadth of his wisdom, in his indomitable perseverance and in his strong individuality. His entire life had not one esoteric phase, being an open scroll, inviting and challenging closest scrutiny. True his were "massive deeds and great" in one sense, and yet his entire life accomplishment but represented the result of the exercise of the intrinsic talent which was his and the directing of his efforts along those legitimate and prolific lines where mature judgment and rare discrimination led the way. A man of indefatigable enterprise and fertility of resource, he carved his name deeply on the records of the industrial and professional history of this section of the great state of Ohio, which owes much of its advancement to his labors. Though he had no personal political ambition, Mr. Bradner was a stalwart Republican in his political adherency, and was ever signally true to the duties of citizenship, while his religious faith was that of the Presbyterian church. His home life was ideal in character, and those to whom he was nearest and dearest find in the grateful memory of his noble and useful life a perpetual benediction; his widow survived him and maintained her home in Fostoria until her death on the 22nd of February, 1904.

JOHN S. CLUDY.—One of Republic's enterprising young business men is John S. Cludy, who was born August 29, 1879, and is the son of John J. and Mariah (Groseup) Cludy. The father was a native of Ohio, but the mother came here with her parents from her native state, Pennsylvania, when still of tender years. John J. Cludy, who pursued the vocation of a tailor was born September 20, 1840, and died September 24, 1898. When he was three years of age he was left an orphan, and his uncle, William Rhoades, took the homeless little lad into his household and reared him and there he lived until his marriage at the age of twenty-five years. He

chose the vocation of an agriculturist and farmed in Seneca county until his death. He was survived by a wife and six children, all of whom were sons, their names being: Emmet, Edward, Charles, John, Jesse and William. Emmet resides in Lansing, Michigan, where he is associated with the Grand Union Traction Company; Edward lives on a farm near Carey; Charles is a citizen of Tiffin; Jesse is a Clinton township agriculturist; and William, the youngest son, resides with his mother on the homestead, located south of Tiffin.

The subject's paternal grandfather, Samuel Cludy, and his wife were the parents of the following children: Jonas, William, Samuel, Henry, Charles, John Jacob, Marie, Sarah, Rebecca, Elizabeth and Fannie.

John S. Cludy resided beneath the parental roof until he became eighteen years of age. He received his education in the schools of Adams township graduating with the class of 1895. In the year 1897 he made a step toward independence and secured employment in the way of assisting various farmers in the locality. When about twenty-six years he took up the trade of a blacksmith and subsequently utilized the knowledge derived in a wagon shop. He later accepted a clerkship in a grocery store, which position he held until the spring of 1910. It was in that year that Mr. Cludy engaged in the general merchandise business in Republic, and the success which has attended his efforts has been evidence that his step was a wise one. He has built up a good trade and enjoys the confidence of all those with whom he has transactions. His success was assured almost from the first, for he transacted five thousand dollars worth of business the first seven months, and the subsequent growth has been commensurate. The political faith of Mr. Cludy is Republican, his sympathy and suffrage having always been given to the men and measures of that party. His lodge affiliations extend to the Knights of the Tented Maccabees.

MARION W. UBERROTH, M. D. has been identified with the medical profession of Seneca county, Ohio, during the past fifteen years, and since he was a year and a half old has resided within its borders.

Dr. Uberroth was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1872, and in his youth enjoyed good educational advantages. Being the son of a physician and later the step-son of a physician, it was natural for him to incline toward the medical profession when old enough to select his life work. His education, begun in the common schools, was carried forward at Heidelberg College and finished in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore, Maryland, where in 1893, at the age of twenty-one, the youngest member of his class, he received his degree of M. D. In the meantime his father, Dr. A. S. Uberroth, had died and his mother had become the wife of Dr. William H. Focht who took up the practice left by Dr. A. S. Uberroth. After his graduation young Uberroth settled at New Riegel, Ohio, as a partner of his step-father, Dr. Focht. But after a year Dr. Focht came to Tiffin, and Dr. Uberroth remained there until the death of Dr. Focht, when he

moved to Tiffin, in 1906, and where he has since been successfully engaged in practice, with office at 70½ East Perry Street.

On November 17, 1898, Dr. Uberroth married Miss Cora La Fountaine, a daughter of Nicholas and Theresa Fountaine and a native of Seneca county, born August 22, 1880. To them have been given three children: Marion W., born October 8, 1903; Flavius J., March 11, 1907; and Marjorie D., July 9, 1908.

The doctor has associated himself with various medical organizations, including the County, State, American and Northwestern Medical Societies. He has membership in Pickwick Lodge, No. 175, K. of P., and, politically, is a Republican.

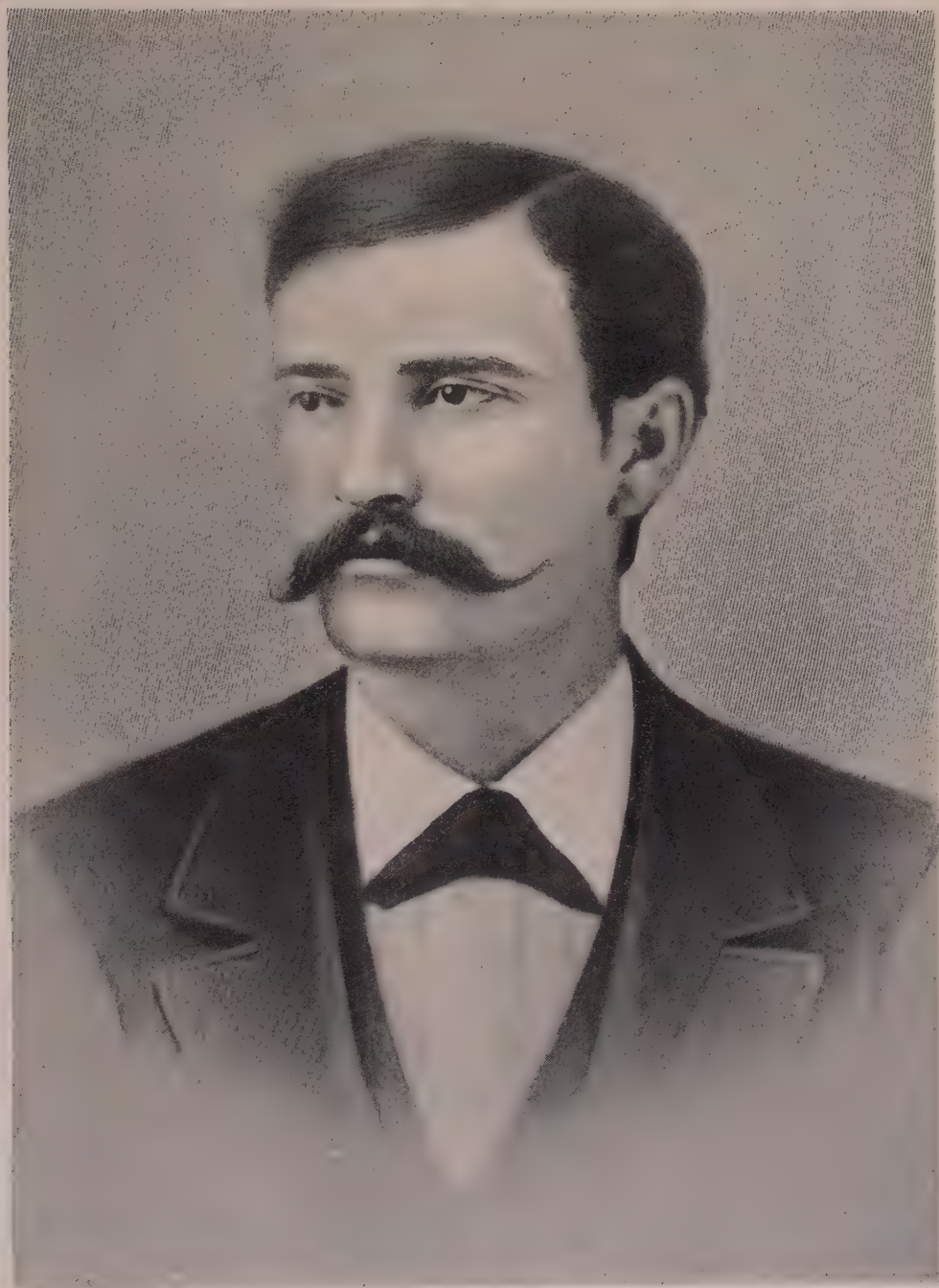
DR. ADAMS S. UBERROTH, father of Dr. Marion W. Uberroth, was a man of strong personality and brilliant attainments, tempered with kindness and gentleness. Indeed, he possessed a magnetism irresistible. As a talker he was fluent and entertaining; his voice was heard on many public occasions, and his words always carried weight. And he possessed the power not only to win but also to hold friends.

He was born in Friedensville, Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, June 7, 1850, from whence in his youth he removed to Philadelphia. He was a student at Freeland Seminary, now Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania, and studied under the late Dr. Levis, celebrated in medical circles. Before he attained his twenty-second year he received the degree of M. D. from Jefferson Medical College, and was tendered the enviable position of assistant demonstrator of anatomy in the college. He felt, however, that a broader field of action awaited him, and visions of a lucrative practice in the west beckoned him on. A few months after his graduation he settled at Sycamore, Wyandotte county, Ohio, but before a year had passed he moved to New Riegel, Seneca county, where, in this village, the surrounding country and adjacent towns, he established a large and successful practice. And here, by the remorseless hand of accident, he was cut down in the prime of manhood, before reaching the zenith of his fame. He died February 15, 1883. He was a member of the Seneca county, Northwestern Ohio and Ohio State Medical Societies, and the American Medical Association.

On October 15, 1870, he married Miss Mallie Wollaston, who bore him two children, a son and daughter, Marion W., and Lalla, the latter the wife of William H. Kildow, of Tiffin, Ohio. Mrs. Uberroth subsequently became the wife of Dr. Focht, and is still living.

Mrs. Mallie Wollaston Focht was born at Brandywine Hundred, Delaware, on the old Governor Bradford homestead, April 6, 1850, a daughter of Thomas P. and Mary (Armstrong) Wollaston. At the age of three years she was taken by her parents to Maryland, where, in the eastern part of the state, on the eastern shore, the family home was established, and where she grew to womanhood and received her education. Her father, Thomas Pennock Wollaston, was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and traced his lineage back through an unbroken line to





*A. Faberoth*



Christopher Pennock of Cornwall, England, and Mary Collet, daughter of George Collet of Clonmell, Ireland, who were united in marriage prior to the year 1675.

CLETUS B. RULE.—One of the youngest of Adams township's independent agriculturists is Cletus B. Rule, who owns and operates a farm of seventy-six acres in Adams township. Although still very young in years he has had a previous career of four years as a school teacher, and is the possessor of an exceptionally good education. He was born February 2, 1889, and is the son of Sydney and Ninnie (McHenry) Rule, who like him were natives of Adams township. The father was born March 22, 1861, on the old family homestead, and is the son of Jefferson and Eliza (Patterson) Rule, natives of New York and Ohio, respectively. The birth of both of these good people occurred in the year 1820, that of the father being upon March 26. The grandparents of the subject located upon land they had secured in this township in the year 1844 and here they resided until their demise, that of the grandfather being in 1902, and that of the grandmother a good many years previously, in 1879.

Mr. Rule's mother, Ninnie McHenry, was born March 19, 1864, her parents being John and Annie McHenry, natives of the state, who ultimately located in Adams township. The father enlisted at the time of the call for troops in 1861 and was killed in service, near the close of the conflict, Mrs. Rule being a small babe at the time. She lived with her widowed mother until her marriage in October, 1883. Mr. Rule is one of five children. The eldest, Wade H., born May 2, 1886, married Dorothy King, in June, 1906, and resides in Greenspring. He is a prosperous and highly respected young business man and he and his wife have one child, a daughter, Florence. The three younger children are, Floyd W., born May 8, 1895; John M., born March 18, 1898; and Helen, born November 18, 1905, and of course still reside beneath the home roof.

Mr. Rule resided with his parents until his marriage. After taking advantage of the Adams township's public schools, which he finished in 1902, passing the Boxwell examination at the age of twelve years, he entered the Tiffin High School. Following that he attended school at Greenspring for a time and then returned to Tiffin, where he matriculated at Heidelberg College. After this he attended the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio, where he completed a mental discipline of an unusually thorough character. He is a natural student and has made the most of his advantages. He began teaching at the age of eighteen years and taught for four years in the schools of Adams township. Although naturally fitted for an instructor, he did not adopt this as a life work, but, having no small knowledge of a scientific character of the great basic industry of agriculture, in July, 1910, he and his bride moved onto a farm of seventy-six acres which he had previously purchased.

Mr. Rule laid the foundation of a household of his own by his marriage on June 16, 1910, to Miss Meda E. Parker, daughter of Elmer and Clara (Meyer) Parker, natives of Ohio, whose ancestors came originally from New York and Germany, respectively. Mrs.



Rule was born March 1, 1889, and attended public school at Old Fort and Greenspring and Heidelberg College at Tiffin. She left that institution in her Sophomore year and took up school teaching at the age of seventeen years, having had a career of three and a half years in this vocation at the time of her marriage. She is talented in music and elocution, having prepared at the Conservatory of Heidelberg, and she also taught these branches. She is a member of the Evangelical church and her social affiliations extend to the Hesperian Literary Society. Mrs. Rule's grandfather Parker came from England with his parents when he was only a few weeks old, they being the first settlers at Fort Seneca. The uncle was killed by Indians.

Mr. Rule is one of the stanch young adherents of the Democratic party. He attends the Evangelical Sunday school and will shortly unite with the church.

CARL C. ANDERSON.—The present representative of the Thirteenth district of Ohio in the United States Congress has been a resident of Fostoria since 1904, and the high prestige which he has gained in public life and in connection with productive industries stands as the diametrical result of his own labors and abilities as he initiated his independent career when a mere boy. Carl C. Anderson was born at Bluffton, Allen county, Ohio, on the 2nd of December, 1877, and his early educational training was secured in the public schools of Fremont, this state. His initial endeavors in connection with the practical activities of life were started when he became a newsboy and bootblack. His ambition was one of definite purpose and he was not long destined to remain in obscurity. He pushed himself rapidly forward toward the goal of success and for some time he was agent for the Lake Erie & Western Railroad of this state. After severing his associations with this corporation he was employed as a traveling commercial salesman and later was an interested principal in a company engaged in the manufacturing of underwear at Fostoria. In his home city of Fostoria, Mr. Anderson has gained a secure place in public confidence and esteem and this was significantly shown in 1905, when he was elected mayor of the city, as the second Democratic incumbent of this office within the long period of thirty years. His able and progressive administration led to his re-election as his own successor in 1907, though the city gives a normal Republican majority of from five to seven hundred. No citizen has shown greater public spirit or a more lively interest in the promotion of all enterprises and measures that have tended to conserve the general welfare of the community. At the present time he is serving as president of the Fostoria Board of Trade and is a member of the Fostoria Trades Council. He is identified with a number of fraternal and social organizations, including the United Commercial Travelers and the Commercial Travelers of America. He has been a most zealous worker in behalf of the cause of the Democratic party and has shown himself a resourceful and well fortified advocate of its principles. In 1908 he was elected to represent the Thirteenth district of Ohio in the United States

congress and his abilities and sterling attributes of character admirably qualify him for this distinctive office in the gift of the people of his native state, which he has honored by his services as a citizen and as an official.

Mr. Anderson married in 1904 Helen May, daughter of W. H. Ford, of Fremont, Ohio. They have two sons, Carl Ford Anderson and Ford Richard Anderson, born June 9, 1908 and June 6, 1910, respectively.

MAJOR GEORGE W. CUNNINGHAM is consistently given consideration in this volume as one of the progressive, public spirited and essentially representative citizens of Seneca county. He is one of the successful business men of the city of Fostoria, where he formerly served as mayor and he has long been a prominent figure in the Ohio National Guard, as a member of which he tendered his services to the nation at the time of the Spanish-American war, in which he served with much distinction. Major Cunningham is a native son of the Buckeye state and is a member of one of its sterling pioneer families. He was born at Beaver Dam, Allen county, on the 30th of January, 1863, and is a son of Eli B. and Martha (Church) Cunningham, of Beaver Dam, where the father died and the mother died in Fostoria. The father during the major portion of his active career was a justice of the peace. He was also postmaster a number of years, and was conducting a drug store at the time of his death, and was a citizen who ever commanded unqualified respect and esteem.

In the public schools of his native town Major Cunningham secured his early educational discipline, which was supplemented by further study in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware and the National Normal School at Ada, this state. He devoted four years to effective work as a teacher in the public schools and for a time was employed as a clerk in a mercantile establishment in Lima. In 1880 he came to Fostoria, where he was employed as a clerk in a drug store for a time, after which he individually engaged in the same line of enterprise, with which he was identified for a period of more than twenty years, during the greater portion of which he has had as an able coadjutor E. R. Pillars, with whom he is associated at the present time under the firm name of Cunningham & Pillars. The well equipped establishment has long controlled a large and representative patronage and the success of the enterprise indicates the correct methods brought to bear by the interested principles.

Major Cunningham's identification with the National Guard of the state dates back to the time of his residence in Lima, where he was a member of Company C, Eleventh Regiment. In 1897 he became a member of Company D, Sixteenth Regiment of the Ohio National Guard, in Fostoria, and in this command he was made second lieutenant. At the inception of the Spanish-American war members of this company formally tendered their services to the government and on the 12th of May, 1898, they were mustered into the United States service as the Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. At Knoxville, Tennessee, Major Cunningham was promoted to

first lieutenant and assigned to Company G of his regiment. On the 24th of the following May he was mustered out, with other members of his regiment, at Augusta, Georgia, after having been absent for thirteen months. The regiment was the first of the American soldiers to land at Cenfuegos and passed four months on the island of Cuba, after which it returned to the United States and it remained in the south until it was mustered out. After the close of the war Major Cunningham became prominently concerned in the re-organization of Company D of the Sixth Ohio National Guard, of which he was made captain. He retained this office nearly five years. His title of major is given him by reason of his service in this office as a member of the staff of the governor of his native state. He is also prominently identified with the Knights of Pythias, in which fraternity he formerly served on the staff of Brigadier General Minchull with the rank of colonel. In the Masonic fraternity he has attained to the Knight Templar degree, in which his affiliation is with Fort Commandery, No. 62, in which he has served as generalissimo. He also holds membership in the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks, and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

From the time of attaining his legal majority Mr. Cunningham has been arrayed for the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor and he has given effective service in behalf of the party cause. He has served as a member of both the Seneca County Republican Committee and the City Committee of Fostoria and in the latter he held the position of chairman. From 1893 to 1897 he was a valued member of the city council and during the last year was its president. In April, 1901, there was accorded him distinctive mark of popular confidence and esteem when he was elected mayor of his home city. In this chief executive office he served two terms and in this connection the following pertinent statements have been made: "His administration, businesslike, practical and progressive, gave excellent satisfaction to the fair minded citizens and furnished additional proof of his loyalty to good government and the welfare of his adopted home. His public career has ever been honorable and straight forward and in his life history there are no esoteric chapters, all being an open book. His life is worthy of emulation, all is above condemnation, and thus it is that Major Cunningham deserves and receives the respect and confidence of his fellow men."

On the 15th of December, 1887, was solemnized the marriage of Major Cunningham to Miss Mary Kenower, who was born and reared in Fostoria and who is a daughter of the late Jacob L. Kenower, an honored pioneer and representative business man of this city. Major and Mrs. Cunningham have two children: Harold, who was born on the 25th of July, 1892, and who is now a student in the Fostoria High School, and George K., who was born on the 20th of January, 1898, and who is attending the public school. Major and Mrs. Cunningham are valued and popular factors in connection with the best social activities of their home city and here they are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church.



NEAL SPOONER STORER, M. D.—In no profession is there more constant progress than in that of medicine and surgery, thousands of the finest minds the world has produced making it their one aim and ambition to discover some more effectual method for the alleviation of suffering, some more potent weapon for the conflict with disease, some clever device for repairing the damaged human mechanism. Ever and anon the world hears with mingled wonder and thanksgiving of a new conquest of disease and disaster which a few years ago would have been placed within the field of the impossible. To keep in touch with these discoveries means constant alertness and while there may be in many quarters great indolence in keeping in touch with modern thought, the best type of physician believes it no less than a crime not to be master of the latest devices of science. Although the professional career of Dr. Neal Spooner Storer has as yet been brief, he has had time to prove that he is of this type, alert, progressive and conscientious.

Dr. Storer was born May 30, 1883, in Republic, and on both the paternal and maternal sides he comes of a family of physicians. He is the son of Benjamin S. and Sophia B. (Spooners) Storer. His father was a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred at Clyde in the year 1850, and the date of the mother's birth was February 26, 1862. Benjamin S. Storer resided with his parents until his marriage and establishment of a home of his own. He was educated in the old Republic Academy and at Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, where he took his degree in 1878. He took up his practice here and a very promising career was cut short in 1885 by his death from typhoid fever. He was associated in practice with his father-in-law, H. K. Spooner, one of Seneca county's most prominent citizens. Dr. Benjamin Storer was married April 27, 1882, and the following is a glance at the wife's family.

Mrs. Storer's father, Henry Kuhn Spooner, was born on "Honey Creek," Seneca county, March 21, 1837. He was educated in the town and county schools and took academic work in the old academy at Republic, subsequently teaching for a few years in the Honey Creek schools. He began his preparation for his life work by reading medicine with Dr. William McHenry in Republic and in the year 1858 was graduated from the Western Reserve Medical College in Cleveland with honors. In 1860 he inaugurated a congenial life companionship by his marriage with Miss Harriet Sprague and became the father of three children: Sophia Berten; Katherine, now Mrs. James F. Barker of Cleveland; and William Rabley Spooner, of Republic.

Dr. Spooner had a Civil war record which for gallantry and adventure was equaled by few in Seneca county. At the beginning of the great conflict between the states he enlisted near Norwalk, Ohio, in the Fifty-fifth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Having already been in practice at Republic he served as assistant surgeon in the Fifty-fifth until that regiment was so thinned in rank that it and others in similar condition were made into the Sixty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and of that Dr. Spooner was made surgeon in chief. He served to the end of the war, having to his credit the West Virginia campaign, the battle of Bull Run,

Gettysburg, Manassas Junction, Knoxville campaign, Lookout Valley, and many other minor engagements, and finally accompanying Sherman on the famous march to the sea. Thus he participated in many of the crucial battles of the war and was ever at the scene of the most active operations. After the declaration of peace and the mustering out of the troops Dr. Spooner resumed his practice in Republic and it was his good fortune to be able to give distinguished service to the country in times of peace as well as in times of war. He was actively engaged in practice until the time of his death, which occurred December 19, 1907, and during that time he served as a member of the pension board and as representative from his district to the state legislature. He was always a public spirited man, ready to support every measure of general benefit and he was a speaker of no small ability.

Dr. N. S. Storer, the immediate subject of this review, received his preliminary education in Republic and resided with his mother until such time as he went away to receive his medical preparation. He took four years' preparatory work in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and four years' collegiate work at the Northwestern University of Chicago, from which institution he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He followed this with a year and a half as interne in the Cook County Hospital of Chicago, and, following that valuable experience returned to Republic, where he hung out his shingle, about March 1, 1908. He has won the confidence of the people and has a good sized practice.

On January 7, 1908, Dr. Storer became a recruit to the ranks of the Benedicts by his marriage with Bertha M. Westberg, of Frankfort, Michigan, a trained nurse whose acquaintance he had made in the Cook County Hospital. She was born September 9, 1883, her parents being John and Marie (Ahlberg) Westberg, natives of Sweden. Mrs. Storer was educated in the schools of Frankfort, Michigan, and in Benzonia Academy, Benzonia, Michigan, and was graduated as a trained nurse from the Illinois Training School for Nurses, located in Chicago.

Dr. Storer is a member of Alpha Kappa Kappa fraternity and is also a member of the scholarship society, Alpha Omega Alpha. He is a member of the Episcopal church and his wife of the Methodist church, and the former is independent in politics, believing under present political conditions in the elevation of the best man to the office.

Dr. Storer's mother, Mrs. Sophia Storer, is an ardent Eastern Star member and is prominent and popular in this important order, having organized several lodges and ever working faithfully for its advancement. Her influence extends through this and adjoining counties and she has frequently attended grand lodge as delegate from Republic.

HON. JOSEPH C. ARNOLD.—As mayor of the city of Tiffin Hon. Joseph C. Arnold holds a position of prominence and influence in the annals of Seneca county, and is eminently worthy of representation in a work of this character. A man of incorruptible integrity, honest and upright, he is held in high respect through-

out the community. He was born, September 30, 1863, in Tiffin, being a son of deputy sheriff Anthony H. and Mary R. (Fanning) Arnold. His father was born and bred in Pennsylvania, but his mother was a native of Seneca county.

Educated in Tiffin, Joseph C. Arnold attended first the public schools, afterwards attending Heidelberg College. Thinking when young to enter the legal profession, he read law with Hon. George E. Seney, but instead of engaging in its practice entered the railway mail service as a clerk, continuing thus employed for fifteen years. Always taking an intelligent interest in civic affairs, he was elected mayor of Tiffin in 1907, and filled the chair so acceptably and ably that in 1909 he was re-elected to the same high office. As head of the city government Mr. Arnold performs his duties conscientiously, never swerving from the direct line of obligation to benefit a friend or to harm a foe.

Mr. Arnold married, July 1, 1897, Ada Engstrom, of Chicago, Illinois, and they are the parents of two children, namely: Elva, born April 12, 1898; and Ruth, born September 10, 1908. Politically Mr. Arnold is an earnest supporter of the Democratic party, and fraternally he belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and to the Knights of Columbus. Religiously he and his family are members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church.

FATHER THOMAS F. CONLON.—Well educated, a deep thinker, earnest in his convictions, and sincerely devout, Rev. Father Thomas F. Conlon, pastor of St. Mary's church, at Tiffin, Seneca county, is doing much toward the betterment of the moral status of the place, and as a man and a citizen is held in high esteem by the people. A native of Ohio, he was born, November 10, 1869, in Ashtabula, where he received his preliminary education, attending the public and the parochial schools.

Wishing to further advance his studies, he entered Assumption College, at Sandwich, Ontario, and there took a classical and scientific course, graduating with the class of 1893. Going then to Baltimore, Maryland, he completed the course of study at St. Mary's Seminary, where, in December, 1898, he was ordained to the priesthood. Returning to Ohio, he was for six months assistant priest in St. Joseph's church, in Tiffin, and from that time until 1901 was the assistant priest at St. Mary's church. During the time he was away from Tiffin, Father Conlon was at Grafton and at Salem as pastor. He came back to Tiffin as pastor of St. Mary's church on the death, in 1904, of Rev. Father Haley, who had been in charge of the church as pastor for forty-seven consecutive years. Father Conlon succeeding to the position, has since been pastor of this large and important church, likewise having control of the parochial school of the parish.

St. Mary's church, which was built during the pastorate of Father Conlon, is one of the largest and finest edifices in the Toledo diocese, and has a large and constantly increasing membership, the pastor being especially influential and popular with his flock.



GEORGE DOUGHERTY.—A man of pronounced business and executive ability; George Dougherty is actively identified with one of the principal industries of Tiffin, where he is superintendent of the United States Glass Works. Honest and upright in his dealings, his influence as a man of honor and integrity is widely felt and he is held in high esteem throughout the community. He was born, March 17, 1879, in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and was there bred and educated, completing his early studies in the high school.

Beginning his active career soon after leaving school, Mr. Dougherty entered the employ of the United States Glass Company in Pittsburg as bill clerk, and proved himself so useful and faithful in that capacity that in 1900 the company sent him to Tiffin as shipping clerk. Promotion here awaited him, and ere very many seasons he was made assistant superintendent of the plant, and in October, 1909, succeeded Robert Reid as superintendent of the works.

On June 8, 1904, Mr. Dougherty married Elizabeth Reifsnider, who was born April 29, 1882, in Tiffin, a daughter of C. D. and Elizabeth (Schriver) Reifsnider. Mrs. Dougherty is a woman of culture and refinement, who, having finished the course of studies in the Tiffin schools, was graduated from the Gambier Seminary. Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty have two children, namely: George D., born December 23, 1905; and Elizabeth, born March 3, 1909. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty are members of the Episcopal church. Fraternally Mr. Dougherty belongs to Tiffin Lodge, No. 77, F. & A. M.; to Seneca Chapter, No. 42, R. A. M.; to Clinton Council No. 47, R. & S. M.; and to De Molay Commandery, No. 9. K. T.

BYRON A. PARMENTER.—One of the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of Adams township, of extremely interesting and distinguished ancestry, and one whose prominence in lodge circles gives him an even more extensive acquaintance than he might otherwise enjoy, is Byron A. Parmenter. He was born October 8, 1861, in Williams county, Ohio, on the state line between Ohio and Michigan and his residence in Seneca county dates from the fall of 1875. Mr. Parmenter is a self made man and what prosperity he has achieved is due to his own efforts, for he assuredly was not born with the silver spoon in his mouth. His parents died when he was only six years of age and as soon as he could by any stretch of imagination be counted old enough to take his place in the work-a-day world he hired out by the month and continued thus employed for a number of years.

A glance at the forbears of Mr. Parmenter would be timely at this point. His parents were David and Lydia (Huling) Parmenter, both of whose families were originally from England. The maternal grandfather, Nathan Huling, crossed the Atlantic to seek new fortunes in a land of larger and richer resources at a very early date and shortly after his arrival on these shores, located in Pennsylvania. The Huling and the Wyckoff families, from both of which Mr. Parmenter is descended on the maternal side, came originally from Holland, and the later spelling of the name is

Wickoff. The Parmenter family was originally French, and the name in its original form was Paumentier, the change in the spelling having been made about the time of the crusades. The family is extremely good and was related to French royalty. Like the families on the maternal side, they too went to England on account of religious persecution, and came thence to America. Members of the family built the town of Maumee on the banks of Lake Erie about the year 1830. Mr. Parmenter's grandmother Perde was an Irishwoman.

When in 1893, at the age of thirty-two years, Mr. Parmenter found himself in a position to marry he choose for his wife Rosa Baker, daughter of Fred A. and Ann C. Holtz (Feoge) Baker, the mother being an aunt of Charles D. Holtz, whose biography appears on other pages of this work. Their marriage was solemnized on the last day of January of the year mentioned. Mrs. Parmenter was born October 4, 1864. Her mother's parents were Jacob and Susan Feoge, the name having originally been spelt Fiege. It was changed to its present form by an ancestor who hoped to escape the detection of his country, he having deserted from the Hessian ranks and joined the Colonial army at the time of the American Revolution. The grandfather Holtz (on the maternal side), who was a native of Germany, came to Seneca county in 1832, when Tiffin consisted of only a few log cabins. He first located in town, but subsequently bought land about two and one half miles east of Tiffin and in 1834, two years after his arrival, he took up his residence upon this farm and here resided until his death, which occurred December 29, 1859, at the age of seventy-two years, he having been born July 17, 1786. His wife survived him until May, 1870, her birthdate having been October 13, 1788, and her age at the time of her demise in consequence being some eighty-two years.

Mrs. Parmenter's father, Fred A. Baker, came to Tiffin, Ohio, in 1848 from Frederick county, Mo. and he worked two years for his brother Ezra, who was the proprietor of a grist mill. This mill, built in 1830, is still standing and was one of the first mills of its kind in Seneca county. Her mother was born in Frederick county, Maryland, May 24, 1823, and came here with her parents when a young girl in 1834. Three of her cousins, Fred A. Baker, Milton E. Baker and John T. Baker, the latter of whom is living, gave valliant service in the Union army at the time of the Civil war, as did also Clay Holtz, William Holtz and Jacob Holtz.

Mrs. Parmenter's father died in 1885 and her mother in 1891, and after the demise of the latter and the breaking up of the home she went to live with her brother, Silas W. Baker, and resided with him until her marriage. She had received a good education in the district schools. For three years after their union Mr. and Mrs. Parmenter resided on a fifty acre fram near Republic, but on March 24, 1896, they removed to Adams township and purchased the valuable seventy-six acre tract upon which they now reside. This with its modern and attractive home, commodious out buildings and beautiful surroundings is a most desirable and frequently visited home. There are no children.

Mr. Parmenter is a staunch advocate of the Republican party and he has held several of the township offices, giving faithful and efficient service as their incumbent. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, having held some of the chairs, and in the Woodmen of the World to which he likewise belongs, he has held nearly all of the offices. He is a member of the order of Pythian Sisters and has held membership in the Patrons of Industry for twenty-one years. He and his wife belong to the Grange. They are also members of the Presbyterian church.

LUCAS STUCKY.—It is most pleasing to the publishers of this work to be able to incorporate within its pages the brief history of a man whose entire life thus far has been spent in this favored section of the fine old Buckeye state, where his success as an agriculturist has been on a parity with his own well directed efforts. Lucas Stucky, whose name initiates this review, was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 24th of May, 1835, and he is a son of John D. and Mary (Schaack) Stucky, the former of whom was a native of Germany, and the latter of whom was born in North Hampton county, Pennsylvania, June 25, 1780. John Stucky was a son of Henry J. Stucky, who was born and reared to maturity in Switzerland, whence he removed with his family to Germany. He was the father of several children. John D., father of our subject, was born in Bavaria on the 4th of January, 1797, and his early educational training was that afforded in the common schools of the locality and period. In 1827, after serving most faithfully for a period of six years in the Germany army, John D. Stucky severed the ties which bound him to home and fatherland and, after procuring a passport from the king, he emigrated to America, embarking on the 27th of March of that year. After a long and weary trip of fifty days he reached Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and being favorably impressed with this section of the United States he acted on a most generous impulse and immediately returned to his old home in Germany to induce his friends and kinsmen to likewise seek their fortunes in the new world. Accordingly one of his brothers, together with a large number of acquaintances, accompanied him on his second trip across the broad expanse of the Atlantic, and two other brothers came about 1837. All four of the brothers now lie in their final resting place in the Reformed church cemetery on Base line.

In course of time John D. Stucky removed to the eastern part of Ohio and in 1834 he took up his residence in Seneca county, where he entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land in section 31, Bloom township. This tract was then virgin wilderness and Mr. Stucky contracted with a carpenter to build him a house, to be in readiness for occupancy in early spring. He advanced the man fifty dollars but when he returned to take possession in the spring he found neither man, house nor fifty dollars. His natural resourcefulness came to his aid and he camped in the open until he was able to construct a more substantial home for himself. In due course of time he owned a fine set of farm buildings and a valuable and well improved farm, on which he passed





LUCAS STUCKY AND FAMILY



the residue of his eventful pioneer life, a man deeply loved and highly esteemed by his fellow citizens. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1841 and no native son accorded a more loyal and stanch allegiance to the cause of his country. He was thrice married. He first wedded Miss Boughman, who died, and subsequently was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary Schaack, whose death occurred on the 15th of January, 1838, and who was survived by three children, Henry, Lucas (the immediate subject of this review), and Adam. In 1840 John D. Stucky was united in marriage to Miss Mary Bippus and they became the parents of five children, only one of whom is now living, John. Mr. Stucky was a most zealous member of the Reformed church and he was summoned to eternal rest in 1870, at the venerable age of seventy-four years.

Lucas Stucky, who was born in Bloom township, this county, on the 24th of May, 1835, as already noted, was reared to adult age on his father's fine old farmstead, in whose work he early began to assist. He received his preliminary educational discipline in the district schools and has since supplemented the same in life's school of experience. It is interesting to note at this point that he still retains possession of the farm reclaimed by his father so many years ago. He also owns, in Lyken township, Crawford county, this state, three tracts of land of eighty, forty and twenty acres respectively. Through his native thrift and close identification with the great basic art of agriculture he has gained a competency and is now living virtually retired in Bloomville, where he is spending the gracious evening of his life in the enjoyment of the proceeds of his former years of earnest toil and endeavor.

In politics Lucas Stucky is a stanch advocate of the principles and policies of the Democratic party and though never an aspirant for public office he has ever accorded a loyal support to all measures and enterprises tending to conserve the general welfare of the community. He is broad minded and public spirited and his life stands exemplar of the best type of American citizenship. Both he and his wife are members of the Reformed church, in the various departments of whose work they have been most active, contributing liberally to all charitable and beneficent organizations connected with the same.

On the 16th of April, 1857, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Stucky to Miss Mary Rupert, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, on the 1st of May, 1834, and who is a daughter of Benjamin and Eva (Snook) Rupert, representative citizens of Stark county, Ohio, where the father was engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Stucky became the parents of twelve children, four of whom are deceased, namely, twins who died in infancy, born in 1867; Delore E., who was born in 1870, and who died in 1906; and Libby, who died at the age of twenty-two years. Those who are living are: Civilla, born 1858; Mary E., 1860; William H. P., 1862; Magdelene, 1864; Elizabeth, 1866; Charles L., 1868; Emma I., 1872; Benjamin C., 1875; and Earl W. M., 1877. It may be noted here that Civilla, Mary E., and William H. P., are all born on the same day of the month.



DAVID C. SHERCK.—Seneca county is one of those favored sections where it is frequently the case that several generations of the same family succeed each other, its many advantages presenting irrefutable argument against change of residence. David C. Sherck, one of the progressive farmers of Adams township, is one of the third generation of his name to play a prominent part in the life of the township, his grandfather, John Sherck, having been one of the pioneers who secured land from the government, walking to Bucyrus to get the deed, which was signed by President Andrew Jackson. He was a native of Pennsylvania, as was also his wife, whose maiden name was Magdaline Krider, and their farm of one hundred and sixty acres was located near Thompson Center. This they redeemed from primitive conditions and converted into a productive and valuable piece of property. He assisted in building the place of worship located where the Dunkard church now stands at Thompson Center and gave his hand to the cause of education and the building of public schools.

David C. Sherck was born October 15, 1866, his parents being Martin and Elizabeth (Good) Sherck. The mother was a daughter of Emanuel and Catherine (Bunn) Good, people of the Keystone state, who came to Thompson township in 1830 and located on a farm there. They were descendants of the Pilgrims, their forefathers having been of that brave little band who crossed the seas in the Mayflower. Mr. Sherck's father was born May 14, 1842, and died December 24, 1906. He experienced the usual fortunes of the son of a pioneer farmer, such as education in the district schools and practical training in boyhood in the various departments of farming. He remained at home until his marriage, which was solemnized in the year 1865. To them were born four children, the subject being the eldest. Charles, born July 30, 1868, resides with his brother in this township; Professor John Sherck, born December 16, 1869, lives in Bloomville; and Estella, born April 3, 1871, is the wife of Claud Wilder, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. The elder Mr. and Mrs. Sherck were members of the Reformed church and were very active in its affairs.

Mr. Sherck remained at home until his marriage in 1892, when he began to farm independently, living for nine years upon a property owned by his wife's parents. They subsequently removed to their present location in Adams township and Mr. Sherck went into partnership with his brother Charles in the operation of a one hundred and sixty acre estate. Charles has property interests in West Lodi, consisting of a house and three lots. They engage in general farming and have made a success of their endeavors.

Mr. Sherck was married, November 10, 1892, his wife being Flora E. Hensinger, daughter of John and Catherine (Neikirk) Hensinger. Mrs. Sherck was born December 7, 1870, while the birthdate of her father was September 30, 1831, and that of her mother, August 30, 1834. The maternal grandparents, Henry and Catherine Neikirk, natives of Maryland, came here at an early day and located in Scipio township, Seneca county. More detailed information concerning this family is given in the sketch

of E. E. Neikirk, appearing on other pages of this work. Mrs. Sherck is a member of a family of ten children, of whom the other members are: Timothy J., Henry W., Ida A., wife of J. H. Bennehoff, of Tiffin; Katie M., wife of Bloom Royer; Lester P., of Chicago Junction; Jessie, wife of Frank Sherman, of Tiffin; Effie J., wife of Frank Gorman, of Indiana; Mary G., wife of Charles Sherck, (deceased); and Otto J. The above mentioned Charles Sherck, whose death occurred May 14, 1906, was the father of three children: Inez, Virgil and Thelma.

David C. Sherck and his wife are the parents of five children, named: Oscar C., Bessie E., Charles L., Noble B., and Rachel B. They have also a number of nieces and nephews on the Sherck side. Professor John Sherck of Bloomville having children, named Florence E., Donald, Edwin Matt and Charles Bernard, while the sister Estella has four, named Leta, Orin, Eula and Arlo. Mr. Sherck's brother and partner, Charles, is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has filled all the chairs. He is likewise affiliated with the Rebekahs. John Sherck is a Mason, holding membership in this ancient and important order in Bloomville. The Shercks are active workers in the Christian church and its Sunday school. David Sherck is a Democrat in politics.

HARRY P. BLACK.—Entirely due to his own efforts has been the advancement of Harry Patrick Black to the status which he now occupies as one of the representative members of the bar of Seneca county, and he is engaged in the active practice of his profession in the city of Tiffin, where he is junior member of the firm of Platt & Black. From his efforts as a skilled artisan he made provision for his earnest and effective work in the preparation for the profession of his choice, and he has been dependent upon his own resources since his early youth, so that the marked success which he has achieved is the more gratifying to contemplate. He has served in various offices of public trust in Seneca county, including that of prosecuting attorney, of which he is incumbent at the present time, and he holds a secure place in the confidence and esteem of the community in which he has elected to establish his home.

Harry Patrick Black was born in the town of Kirkcaldy, on the north shore of the Firth of Forth, in Fifeshire, Scotland, and the date of his nativity was April 4, 1870. He is a son of Michael and Elizabeth (Smith) Black, both of whom were born in the north of Ireland. The lineage on both the paternal and maternal sides is traced back to stanch Scottish origin, and the ancestors of Mr. Black were among those colonists who emigrated from Scotland to the north of Ireland in 1604, under the reign of King James I of England. Michael Black was a potter by trade and vocation, and when the subject of this review was about three years of age the family emigrated to America and established a home in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, in which state the parents passed the residue of their lives, the father having passed away in 1884 and the mother in 1895. Both were devout communicants of the

Catholic church, in whose faith were carefully reared their children, of whom three sons and one daughter are now living.

He whose name initiates this review gained his early educational discipline in the parochial schools of the city of Baltimore and thereafter continued his higher academic studies for two years in Rockhill College, at Catonsville, that state, an institution conducted by the Christian Brothers of the Catholic church. Upon the death of his father it became incumbent upon Harry P. Black, who was then sixteen years of age, to secure employment by which he could provide for his own needs and also assist in the care of his widowed mother and the younger children of the family. It was but natural that under these conditions he should turn his attention to the potter's trade, which had been the vocation of his honored father, and he thus entered upon an apprenticeship in the Maryland Pottery Works, in the city of Baltimore. There his apprenticeship was prolonged over a period of five years, and after the completion thereof he continued to be employed in the establishment as a journeyman for two years, having become a skilled workman in this line of industrial enterprise.

Though successful in the work of his trade Mr. Black had higher ambitions, and after consulting ways and means there was naught of vacillation in his course. He determined to enter the legal profession, and results have emphatically shown the wisdom of his choice of vocation. In the year 1892 Mr. Black came to Seneca county and located in Tiffin, where he began the study of law under the able preceptorship of his present partner and valued friend, James H. Platt, having instituted his technical reading on the 17th of March, 1893, a significant observance of St. Patrick's day. In the following month he was elected township clerk of Clinton township and he effectively discharged the duties of this office while continuing his earnest and indefatigable study of the science of jurisprudence. He was admitted to the bar on the 7th of June, 1895, and forthwith became associated with his preceptor in the active practice of his profession in Tiffin, where this mutually grateful and effective alliance has since continued, under the firm name of Platt & Black. Mr. Black has proved a most versatile and resourceful trial lawyer, and is a strong advocate before court or jury. In 1896 he was elected city solicitor of Tiffin, and of this office he continued incumbent for two terms of two years each. In November, 1908, there came further recognition of his professional ability and personal popularity, in that he was elected prosecuting attorney of the county. He has made an admirable record in this office, in which he has appeared as public prosecutor in many important cases, both civil and criminal, and his term of office expired on January 1, 1910.

In politics Mr. Black gives his allegiance to the Democratic party, and he has given yeoman service in behalf of its cause, being an able exponent of its principles. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church, and he is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the American Order of Red Men.



On the 18th of June, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Black to Miss Ida G. Wagner, who was born and reared in Tiffin, where the Wagner family home has been maintained for more than half a century. Mrs. Black is a daughter of Joseph and Josephine Wagner, and the father prior to his death was one of the representative business men and influential citizens of Tiffin. Mr. and Mrs. Black became the parents of two children, one of whom died in infancy, and the surviving daughter, Josephine Elizabeth, was born on the 20th of February, 1909, and is a shining and comforting light in the family home.

EDWARD LEPPER.—A genial, broad minded, law abiding citizen of Tiffin. Edward Lepper has a large circle of acquaintances in Seneca county, each one of whom is his friend. He was born, October 14, 1838, in Lisbon, Columbiana county, Ohio, a son of William D. Lepper, Jr., coming from honored German stock. His paternal grandfather, William D. Lepper, Sr., was born in Alsace, Germany, and was a man of much ability and culture, having been a graduate of the far famed Heidelberg University, the oldest and best institution of the kind in all Germany. Emigrating to the United States, he settled in New York, later in Pennsylvania and finally in Ohio, where he carried on a substantial business as a contractor and builder.

Having learned the trade of a carriage painter, Edward Lepper came to Tiffin in 1858, and in following his chosen occupation became proficient as a painter and skilful as an artist, many of the more noted pieces of his handiwork being still in evidence in the vicinity of the court house. While the dark clouds of war were hovering over our land in the early sixties, Mr. Lepper's patriotic spirit was aroused, and he enlisted in the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he served until just after the engagement at Stone River, when he was honorably discharged, the term of his enlistment having expired. Coming home, he re-enlisted in 1863, joining the Ohio Guards and being commissioned second lieutenant of his company. He was stationed with his regiment at Fort C. F. Smith until the close of the conflict, when he returned to Tiffin.

In 1881 Mr. Lepper was elected county coroner of Seneca county, and has been continuously re-elected to the office ever since, at the present time, in 1910, serving his fifteenth consecutive term, a period of thirty-one years. Attending most faithfully to the duties devolving upon him in this capacity, his services have been highly appreciated by his constituents. Mr. Lepper is a member of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Relief Committee, of which he is secretary, and also belongs to the Seneca County Humane Society. His grandfather came to Ohio in 1808 and established the *Ohio Patriot*, one of the oldest papers in the state of Ohio, it being now one hundred and two years old.

HEATH K. COLE, B. S., LL. D.—Conspicuous among the younger members of the Seneca county bar is Heath K. Cole, of Tiffin, who has inherited in no small measures the legal talents of

his father, John L. Cole, and in the practice of his profession is meeting with good success. A native of Seneca county, he was born, September 16, 1880, in Republic, of substantial New England ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Nathan Cole, was born in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, in 1785. Leaving his native state when young, he migrated first to New York state, where he resided until 1836. Following then the trail of the emigrant, he came with his family to Seneca county, Ohio, locating south of Tiffin, and there spent his remaining days. He married Mary M. Walker, who was born in Cayuga county, New York, March 3, 1808, and died at Republic, Ohio, March 27, 1907. Of the eleven children born of their union two are living, namely: John L., father of Heath K., and Elsie, wife of Charles C. Fox, of Republic.

John L. Cole was born, February 4, 1840, in Seneca county, Ohio, just south of Tiffin. Entering the legal profession when young, he has gained a position of note among the foremost lawyers of this part of Ohio, and is still actively engaged in the practice of law in Republic. He married A. M. Platte, who was born December 8, 1841, in Seneca county, about a mile south of the village of Republic.

Brought up in the town of Republic, Heath K. Cole was there primarily educated, being graduated from the common and high schools, receiving his diploma from the high school in 1895. He subsequently taught school a year or more, and in 1897 entered Heidelberg University at Tiffin, and having completed the scientific course at that institution was graduated with the degree of B. S. in 1901. In 1902 and 1903 Mr. Cole was superintendent of the Republic schools, during which time he read law with McCauley & Weller, in whose office he afterwards remained from September, 1903, until September, 1904. Going then to Columbus, he entered the law department of the Ohio State University, from which he was graduated with the degree of LL. D. in the spring of 1905. The following eighteen months Mr. Cole spent in Kansas, and on returning to Ohio, in June, 1907, he opened an office in Tiffin, and has since been here successfully engaged in the practice of law, having won an excellent patronage in this city.

Fraternally Mr. Cole is a member of Hildreth Lodge, No. 165, F. & A. M., of Republic; and of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. Politically he is a firm believer in the doctrine taught by Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft.

LOUIS A. SMITH.—The famous lines of Oliver Wendell Holmes,

“There was a young fellow of excellent pith,

Fate tried to obscure him by naming him Smith,”

might be applied to him whose name initiates this review, but in this case, as in that of the character referred to in the poem fate was cheated in her nefarious designs. Louis A. Smith, born April 14, 1865, is of German extraction on both the paternal and maternal sides of the house. His parents, Henry and Barbara (Fry) Smith, were both natives of the Fatherland. The former, born September 20, 1827, came here when a boy of five with his parents. His

father was Rudolph Schmidt, and the subject has anglicised the name. These good people landed at New Orleans and gradually made their way to Ohio, locating on the township line of Wolf creek, the grandparents remaining on the homestead then acquired until their deaths, which occurred in the '60s.

The mother of the subject of this review was born September 6, 1830, and came here when an infant with her parents, Charles and Elizabeth (Rheinbolt) Fry, the year of their emigration being 1831. They were sixty-three days crossing the ocean and after landing at New York, came to Ohio by way of the lakes, locating in Seneca county, near Portland road in the southeast corner of Pleasant township, on land which they secured from the government. They endured with hardihood many difficulties and herculean tasks in their adopted country, among other things making the journey from Sandusky, a distance of thirty-five miles, on foot, with three children. They built their cabin and cleared and improved their land and lived to enjoy some of the benefits offered by the new but resourceful country, being gathered to their fathers in 1867. The Frys had been preceded to what was then "the west" by certain relatives who had subsequently gone on to Illinois, and they followed a route laid out by them.

The subject's father, Henry Smith, was a well known agriculturist. At the breaking out of the Civil war he went to Columbus to enlist, but failed to pass the physical examination. He walked home, making the trip of about sixty miles in one day. His union with Barbara Fry was solemnized February 26, 1851.

Louis A. Smith resided with his parents until his marriage, receiving his education in the district schools of Pleasant township, and at the college at Ada, Ohio. Having passed the teachers' examination when about sixteen years of age, he taught for six years, his pedagogical endeavors being in the townships of Big Spring, Pleasant and Liberty. He was also employed in the post office at Tiffin for three years, but now devotes his whole attention to the cultivation of his land, a tract of one hundred and fifty-seven acres in Pleasant township. After the residence in Tiffin before alluded to he and his wife removed to a part of the old homestead, where they built a house, barn and outbuildings, this being in 1892.

The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith took place October 28, 1890, the latter before her marriage having been Mary E. Buchman, born April 4, 1871, to John and Elizabeth (Steigmeir) Buchman, natives of Germany, who came here when the father was a boy five or six years of age. The natal day of the father was September 28, 1827, and that of the mother, November 30, 1842. To the subject and his wife have been born a family of twelve children, as follows: Celestine E., born January 6, 1892; Florine V., April 12, 1894; Clotilda M., November 30, 1895; Urban B. A., January 4, 1897; Marion J., October 12, 1898; Bertha R., December 2, 1900; Victoria E., April 8, 1902; Gertrude V., January 8, 1904; Paul J., December 19, 1905; Louis F. and Louisa F., twins, November 2, 1907; and Mary A., July 14, 1909. One of the daughters, Florine V., secured a teaching certificate at the age of fifteen years. She is now attending the Tiffin high school, being a member of the junior



class. Mrs. Smith received her education in the schools of Hope-well and Eden townships.

SAMUEL KISTLER.—This highly esteemed citizen of Seneca county is a son of Joseph and Margaret (Shawbury) Kistler and was born July 8, 1867. Joseph Kistler a pioneer in this vicinity, died at his residence in Adams township, February 2, 1899, aged eighty-four years. He was a son of Michael and Magdalena (Hoppes) Kistler, born January 10, 1815, in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. The record of his baptism shows the date February 28, 1815. He was for more than seventy years a consistent member of the Lutheran church, in which he held important offices greatly to the benefit of the church and to the satisfaction of all his fellow members. He came to the county in the year 1832 and married Elizabeth Payne, May 22, 1836. She died October 2, 1854, after having borne him five children. He married Margaret Shawbury September 11, 1855. At his death he left three sons and four daughters. Fifteen of his children and twenty-one of his great grandchildren were living in 1910. In his time he was one of the men of prominence in his township, a leader in and a generous contributor to every good work. He was a good husband and father, a kind neighbor and a truly patriotic citizen. Miss Shawbury, who became his second wife, was born in Prussia and in 1833 came to the United States with her parents. They located in Scipio township. She bore her husband five sons and six daughters five of whom died before she passed away. Their father died February 2, 1899. The mother, who was born January 4, 1829, died December 15, 1905. She was an earnest Christian, trying always to love her God and do good to her fellow men and women. She was long an active and very helpful member of the German Lutheran church.

Samuel Kistler married Miss Mary B. Miller, December 29, 1889. She was born August 3, 1870, a daughter of J. J. and Sarah (Robinalt) Miller. A biographical sketch of her father graces another page of this work. She has borne her husband one son, Albert D. Kistler, born April 21, 1891. Out of the goodness of their hearts; they raised Charles A. McLeod, a native of Maine, who was a member of their household until his marriage and who is now living in Scipio township.

ALBERT J. HENZY.—A man of acknowledged business ability and tact, Albert J. Henzy holds a position of note in the business circles of Tiffin, being at the head of the firm of A. J. Henzy & Company, undertakers and dealers in furniture. A native of Ohio, he was born October 4, 1864, in Sandusky, Erie county, coming from thrifty German ancestry. Growing to manhood in the city of Sandusky, he attended the public schools until fourteen years old, when he entered the employ of J. Krupp & Son, furniture dealers and undertakers, with whom he remained four years. Feeling then the need of a better knowledge of commercial matters, he entered the Sandusky Business College, and there completed the course of study. After his graduation Mr. Henzy was clerk in a

shoe store in his native city for two and one half years, when, in 1883, he accompanied his mother on a trip to her early home in Germany, being away about three months.

Returning to Ohio, Mr. Henzy located in Cleveland, where for a year he was employed as a clerk in the carpet and furniture store of M. J. Moriarty. Coming from there to Tiffin in August, 1885, he accepted a position as clerk in the shoe store of J. H. Kuebler, with whom he continued for two and one half years. Forming then a partnership with Otto Wagoner, he purchased the furniture and undertaking establishment of P. Grummel & Son, and has since carried on a substantial business under the present firm name of A. J. Henzy & Company.

Mr. Henzy married on May 25, 1886, Rosa M. Kuebler, who was born in Tiffin and was here educated, attending first the parochial schools and later being graduated from the Ursuline Convent. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Henzy, namely: Urban L., a graduate of the Buffalo Commercial School; Herman A., who completed his studies in the parochial school; Helen F., a graduate of the Ursuline Convent; and Louisa M., a pupil in the same convent. Mr. Henzy and his family are consistent and valued members of St. Joseph's Catholic church. Fraternally Mr. Henzy belongs to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and is treasurer of his lodge. An active member of the Democratic party, he was elected sheriff of Seneca county in 1902, and served from January, 1903, until January, 1905.

W. H. STOVER, M. D., who owns and occupies a beautiful home at No. 45 West Perry street, Tiffin, Ohio, has been identified with this city as a physician and surgeon for more than four decades.

Dr. Stover is a native of eastern Pennsylvania, having been born in Northampton county September 23, 1839, and has now passed his three score years and ten. When a young man, in August, 1861, he enlisted as a soldier in the Union ranks, and as a member of the Nineteenth Ohio Battery helped to put down the rebellion. During his long, hard service in the war, from the time of his enlistment until his honorable discharge, in June, 1865, he suffered from exposure and hardships which later resulted in his deafness.

After the war he pursued a medical course at Cleveland, Ohio, where he graduated in the Homeopathic College in 1867, and later, in 1874, further prepared himself for his life work by a course in the Detroit Homeopathic College. In the meantime, April 9, 1867, he took up his residence at Tiffin, which has since been his home and where he has had a successful career as a practitioner. He is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy and the International Hahnemann Association.

A few months after establishing himself at Tiffin, in November, 1867, Doctor Stover married Miss Anna M. Snook, who shared life's joys and sorrows with him for forty-two years. Her death occurred in 1909.

**PHILIP H. REIF.**—A man of upright principles, strong in his convictions and fearless in the performance of his duties, Philip H. Reif, of Tiffin, now sheriff of Seneca county, is one of the most respected and popular officials in the county. He is a native-born citizen, his birth having occurred on May 30, 1866, in Tiffin. His father, John Reif, was born in 1826 in Germany, and in 1832 came with his parents to the United States. He is now one of the most venerable and highly respected citizens of Tiffin, where the greater part of his long and useful life has been passed. He married Catherine Reis, who was born in Germany, and was there reared until about fifteen years, when, in 1846, she came to Ohio to live, and here met and married her future husband.

Brought up in Tiffin, Philip H. Reif completed the course of study in the primary and grammar grades of the public schools. On leaving school he entered the employment of J. M. Naylor, and was for twenty-two years connected with the hardware business, clerking in the same establishment under different proprietors. Ever interested in advancing the public welfare, Mr. Reif was nominated for the office of sheriff of Seneca county in the fall of 1908, and at the election held in November, 1908, was elected by the handsome majority of two thousand, one hundred and forty-eight votes, his ticket, the Democratic, usually carrying the county by about thirteen hundred votes. On January 4, 1909, he assumed the duties of his office, and is filling the position ably and acceptably.

Mr. Reif married, on the 4th of May, 1892, Mamie Heckle, who was born in Pennsylvania and came with her parents to Tiffin when a child of three years. Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Reif, namely: Glenn P., born in June, 1894; Miriam I., born in December, 1901; John V., born in November, 1903; and Arthur A., born in February, 1907. Mrs. Reif and the children are members of the Evangelical church. Politically Mr. Reif is an unswerving Democrat, loyal to the interests of his party and of the county. Fraternally he belongs to Tiffin Lodge, No. 175, K. of P.; and to Tiffin Council, No. 136, Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

**EBER K. ECHELBERY.**—This popular citizen of Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, was born in Bloom township, that county, a son of John P. J. and Alice (DeWitt) Echelberry, natives respectively of Maryland and of Ohio. His father enlisted in the Federal army in 1862, was wounded at Stone river and discharged for disability and later enlisted for the one hundred days service. After the war he came to Seneca county and in 1866 married Alice DeWitt. They began their wedded life in Bloomville. For a time he worked for farmers and others by the day, then they moved to the farm on which he now lives near Tiffin. He was born January 21, 1844, and has been a life long Republican and as such has been elected to several offices in his township. His wife was born August 20, 1846, a daughter of William and Mary (Young) DeWitt, natives of Scotland, who came early in life to the United States, later to Ohio, locating near Tiffin when there were on the





*Philip H. Reif*



site of the present city only two log cabins.. She died comparatively young.

Eber K. Echelberry was educated at district schools and at the academy at Republic. He married Olive Metzger, born August 9, 1875, a daughter of H. H. and Rebecca (Drinkwater) Metzger, who in the maternal line traces her ancestry to William the Conqueror. After his marriage, October 21, 1896, he established himself as a barber at Bloomville. After five years successful business there he moved his shop to Republic, where he remained another five years. Then he and his wife moved into the old Drinkwater house, which she had inherited. They have three sons, Klhar, born August 10, 1897; Don, born April 17, 1903; Welton, born May 10, 1907.

Mr. Echelberry is one of a family of six children. One of them died in infancy. Agnes, born February 14, 1869, is the wife of Ervin More, of Scipio. William, born May 28, 1871, lives in Scipio township. Eber K., was born October 7, 1874. Roy, who lives in Scipio township, was born June 29, 1880. Virginia, born March 6, 1883, is employed in Cleveland. H. H. Metzger, Mrs. Eber Echelberry's father, was born June 29, 1837, and died January 20, 1910, in Adams township. He was a son of Samuel and Rebecca (Hoeltzel) Metzger and was the eldest of five children - H. H., John, Jacob, Sarah and Levina. He married June 9, 1859, and his wife died January 13, 1906. Of their five children, Allen died in infancy and Frank, Ida and Adelaide all live in Adams township. In 1878 Mr. Metzger united with the United Brethren church and nobly kept the faith to the end of his days, dying secure in the promise upon which he had turned from the world to better things. In all the relations of his life he was always upright and honorable, helpful to those who needed his sympathy or his material assistance. Mrs. Rebecca Metzger, daughter of Reuben and Sarah Drinkwater, born in Adams township January 28, 1842, died on the farm which had been the scene of her birth, January 13, 1906, in her sixty-fourth year. She had five brothers and a sister, Reuben, Bud, James, William, Addison and Catharine Drinkwater. She was a consistent member of the United Brethren church, a loving wife, mother and sister. Mrs. Echelberry has the old family Bible of her father, bought in 1860, and the much older family Bible of her mother's parents, dated 1775.

As a Republican Mr. Echelberry was in 1909 elected to the office of township trustee, in which capacity he is serving with faithfulness and discretion. He is interested in having good roads throughout the township and county, and is exerting all his personal influence in that direction. As a member of the township school board, he has done much locally to advance the cause of public education. He is a Knight of Pythias and a Junior. It is to such public spirited citizens as Mr. Echelberry that the people of his township look for the advancement of any measure which promises to improve the condition of any considerable number of them, and he is always in the forefront of those who unselfishly labor for the general good. He is the friend of the church, of the school, of good and honest politics, of everything that makes for public enlightenment and public advancement.



SAMUEL H. METZGER was born December 4, 1875, a son of John C. and Sarah Miller Metzger. John C. Metzger is a son of Samuel and Rebecca (Holtzel) Metzger. Samuel's grandparents, Henry and Catharine (Highland) Metzger, came from Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, and located in Pennsylvania. The earliest known ancestor of the family in the paternal line was Theobald Metzger, of Hesse-Darmstadt. Samuel and Rebecca (Holtzel) Metzger were natives of Union county, Pennsylvania. Samuel's parents were Jacob and Elizabeth (Sheimer) Metzger, born in New Jersey, the father July 22, 1769. They came with others of their family to Pickaway county in 1813. Jacob's first wife, mentioned above, died and he married Sarah Dilion. By his first marriage he had children as follows: Annie, born July 5, 1792; Mary, August 28, 1794; Henry, January 8, 1797; John, November 2, 1799; Jacob, May 15, 1802; Catharine, April 3, 1804; Christina, January 15, 1806; Adam, February 14, 1808; Elizabeth, April 9, 1810; Samuel, April 21, 1813. By his second marriage he had two sons, Jonathan R. and George A. The former, born about 1820, was killed in Missouri; the latter died at Holtsdale, Michigan, in 1888. Jacob Metzger and his first wife were English Lutherans and diligent and efficient workers in their church.

Like all old families the early history of the family of Metzger has been found somewhat difficult to trace. Descendants of Theobald Metzger of Hesse-Darmstadt settled in Wurtemberg and from there, as appears, came the first Metzgers to America, landing at New York. Some of the traditions of the family trace it to Holland, where it is said to have borne the name of Von Metzger. It is related that the original Metzger emigrants to the United States came over on a ship on which there was a scourge of smallpox, which took off forty-three of the forty-four children on board, one Jacob Metzger being the only survivor. This child seems, in the plan of providence, to have been spared for terrible death in another form. In his earlier years he was a great hunter, and he amused himself in that way long after his children thought it unsafe for him to do so. In his old age he went to the woods one day against the protest of his friends, a terrific storm came up, he did not return and when sought could not be found. It was not until years afterward that his bones and his gun were found beside a partly subterranean stream whose course he had followed underground from the open country in which he had been hunting. It was thought that he might have been dazed and blinded by the storm.

Samuel Metzger, father of John C. Metzger and grandfather of Samuel H. Metzger, was a man of ability, active in all public affairs, and he made a fine property which included a farm of two hundred and thirty-five acres. Rebecca Holtzel, who became his wife, was born August 19, 1812, in what is now Hardy county, West Virginia, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Holtzel, who came to Brown county, Ohio, when she was twelve years old. She married Samuel Metzger April 23, 1836. Of her eleven or twelve brothers and sisters, Jacob, John C., Susan, Charlotte, Christian and Dorothy were all born in Virginia, and all lived to

a ripe old age. The others, born in Ohio, all died in infancy or in childhood. Her father left Brown county and later lived in Pickaway county, Ohio, whence he moved to Noble county, Indiana, settling on a farm near Ligonier. His wife died in 1840. She was of the old German-American family of Bersgtresser. About 1860 he married Elizabeth Hull, of Albion, Indiana, who survived him. The sketch of D. E. Miller in this work will assist to a better knowledge of this part of the family history of the Holtzels.

Samuel and Rebecca (Holtzel) Metzger had five children: Henry H., born June 29, 1837; John C., born December 4, 1838, near the geographical center of Adams township; Sarah, born November 5, 1840, who married Christian King and died in April, 1877; Jacob, born November 21, 1842; Levina, born November 23, 1849, who is Mrs. Alford Frontz, of Adams township. John C. Metzger was brought up on his father's farm and gained a practical education in the public school near his home. He married Sarah Miller, sister of Jacob J. Miller, March 29, 1860, and they had three children: Alwilda, born December 23, 1860; Gertrude, born August 21, 1872, who married A. J. Weller, of Sandusky county; and Samuel H., whose name is at the head of this article and of whom more will be said further on. Mrs. Metzger died May 21, 1888. Mr. Metzger married Lydia (Lee) Berry on June 2, 1889. By his second marriage he has a daughter, Julia, Mrs. Henry C. Tanner, of Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1862 he moved to Steuben county, Indiana, where he bought forty acres of land and for seven years farmed and operated a threshing machine. Returning to Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, he bought the farm of sixty-seven acres, which has since been his home. During the last few years he has been a somewhat extensive traveler, especially in the United States, with special reference to the west, and his different tours have taken him to most of the western states and territories. An observer as well as a traveler, he has widened his outlook and broadened his mind by study and analysis of what he has seen. He is a man of great affability and kindness of heart, a friend to every worthy person he meets, held in the highest regard by all who know him. A Democrat, solicitous for the success of his party locally as well as nationally, he takes a deep interest in all important township and county affairs and has served his fellow citizens ably and with rare integrity and diligence as town clerk and as a member of the school board. His second wife died March 7, 1899. His declining years are cheered by several children and four grandchildren. The latter are Lela Billman, of Scipio township, daughter of his daughter Alwilda; and Milen B., Carno D. and Loretta C. Metzger, children of his son Samuel H. He enjoys such good health that he appears fifteen or twenty years younger than he is and is so thoroughly alive to present day interests that his farm is one of the best kept and most up-to-date in the township. A son of pioneers, he delights in talking of the old times when the country was new and the people were simple and friendly and helpful to one another. He has an interesting old sabre that his grandfather, a captain of Ohio militia, carried in the war of 1812.

Samuel H. Metzger, of Adams township lived with his father and helped him in his farming operations until he married and contemplated setting up a rooffree for himself. His wife was Stella M. Somers, and they were wedded on February 26, 1896. She was born December 1, 1875, a daughter of John and Catharine (Newkirk) Somers, descendants of Germans from Hesse-Darmstadt who came early to this country. Her father, born in 1829, was a farmer in Scipio township. Educated in good district schools and at Republic, Mr. Metzger was well equipped to take up the battle of life as a farmer. After his marriage he began farming on his own account and he has been so successful that he now owns two hundred and one half acres, well stocked, fitted out and cultivated. He bought his first one hundred acres in 1899, fifty-three acres in 1902 and forty-seven and one half acres in 1910. He has bought several tracts of timber land, owning now from one hundred and fifty to one hundred and seventy-five thousand feet of lumber in the tree. For several years he has dealt extensively in lumber and hay. Last year his shipment of lumber was very large and he shipped one hundred and eighty car loads of hay. Taken all in all, he is one of the busiest and most progressive men in his part of the county, one whose future is roseate with promise of big things well accomplished. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat. Toward all local movements promotive of the good interests of his fellow citizen he is helpful beyond some of his abler neighbors. His sons, Milen B. and Carno D. were born April 20, 1897, and April 25, 1899, respectively, and his daughter, Loretta C., April 22, 1903.

JOHN B. MAULE.—The present postmaster of Greenspring is a native son of Seneca county and is numbered among its well known and highly honored citizens. He is a scion of a family whose name has been identified with the history of the old Buckeye state for nearly three-quarters of a century and the genealogical record is one of particularly interesting order, as even the brief data incorporated in this review will indicate.

John B. Maule was born in Hopewell township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 7th of August, 1863, and is a son of Charles L. and Mary J. (Nichols) Maule, the former of whom was also born in Hopewell township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 19th of January, 1835, and the latter of whom was born in Kentucky, on the 27th of April, 1838. Their marriage was solemnized on the 17th of May, 1857, and of the four children the subject of this review is the youngest. Of the other children it may be noted that Victoria V., who was born on the 1st of March, 1858, is the wife of Aaron Zink, a resident of Pleasant township, Seneca county, Ohio. Laura I., who was born on the 7th of May, 1859, is the wife of Henry Zink, of Sandusky county, and Diadama A., who was born on the 28th of October, 1860, is the wife of George McNutt, of Sandusky county.

Charles L. Maule was a son of John and Elizabeth (Derr) Maule, the former of whom was born October 21, 1792, and died October 31, 1866, and the latter of whom was born September 14



1804, and died May 23, 1885. The lineage of the Maule family is traced back to distinguished French origin and the ancient family of Maule the original of whose coat of arms is set up in the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris, A. D. 996, had its estate not far from the city of Paris and this estate remained in the possession of the family for four centuries. Definite record traces the genealogy back to L. A. Maule who was living near Paris in the year 996 A. D. The Lords of Maule owned a large estate eight leagues from Paris, which remained in the family as stated for four centuries. Guarin, a son of one of them, went with William the Conqueror to England. He died in 1098, leaving two sons, one of whom attached himself to David, king of Scotland. He obtained large grants of land in Mid-Lothian from the King. It was from him that the Maules of this country descended.

Thomas Maule, of Salem, Massachusetts, left England about 1655 for the island Barbadoes. When only twelve years old he went from there to Boston, then to Salem, where he was persecuted for his religious belief, he being a Quaker (as are most of his descendants of this section). Thomas had one son, John who came to Philadelphia about 1701 and who married Charity Jones in 1704. They left one son, Thomas, who had a store on Second street, Philadelphia. He married Zillak Walker. They sold the store and moved to a large tract of land he had purchased near what is now Strafford Station on the Pennsylvania Railroad. They raised a large family of children: Thomas, Daniel, Benjamin, Ebenezer, John, Jacob and others. John died about 1792 of yellow fever contracted while attending Yearly Meeting in Philadelphia.

Thomas, the oldest son, moved to Richmond, Virginia, where he engaged extensively in business. Three of his grandsons came from there to Philadelphia. After Thomas' death his widow, Zillak Walker, married Jeremiah Brown, of Lancaster county, and to them one daughter was born, Zillak who married James Morgan.

John Maule, grandfather of him whose name initiates this review, was born and reared in Maryland, as was also his wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Derr, and there their marriage was solemnized on the 24th of May, 1827. In 1830 they emigrated to Ohio and established their home in Seneca county, where the grandfather engaged in the work of his trade, that of blacksmith, and where both he and his wife continued to reside until their death. John Maule had two brothers and one sister. The brothers finally established their homes at Richmond, Virginia, and the sister, Lydia, came to Ohio, whence she later went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where she died in 1866. Thomas Maule, father of John, died in Baltimore, Maryland, as the result of an attack of yellow fever. The family name was utilized by Hawthorne in his famous work, the House of Seven Gables, and the data therein incorporated by the distinguished author was authentic in so far as it related to this family. John and Elizabeth (Derr) Maule became the parents of children concerning whom the following brief record is given: Lleuellah Thomas, who was named in honor of the founder of the family in America, was born on the 14th of February, 1829; Ann E., was born on the 23rd of March, 1830, and on

the 27th of December, 1853, she became the wife of Adam Repp; William W., who was born December 11, 1831, was united in marriage to Elizabeth Zell on the 26th of May, 1857; Lydia M., who was born March 18, 1833, became the wife of William Dick on the 19th of October, 1854; Charles L., father of him whose name introduces this sketch, was the next in order of birth; John E., was born May 18, 1839, and died on the 5th of the following August; Charles, who was a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war, in which he served under General Sherman, in Georgia, died while in service, on the 23rd of May, 1865; and William W., the youngest of the children, died in Hopewell township, on the 28th of January, 1908. John Maule, the founder of the Ohio branch of the family, died on the 31st of October, 1866, and his devoted wife was summoned to the life eternal in 1870.

Charles L. Maule devoted the major portion of his active career to the vocation of farming and he continued to maintain his home in Hopewell township until his death, which occurred on the 23rd of May, 1865. He was a man of sterling integrity of character and of strong intellectual powers so that he wielded no little influence in connection with local affairs of a public order and held a secure place in the confidence and esteem of the community. In November, 1864, he tendered his services in defense of the Union by enlisting in the Eighty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which he participated in a number of important engagements, including the battle of Atlanta, and he continued in service until his death. His widow was a daughter of Cornelius and Isabel (Wiley) Nichols, who were natives of Kentucky, whence they removed to Ohio, in 1840, establishing their home in Sandusky. Mrs. Mary J. (Nichols) Maule was two years of age at the time of the family removal from Kentucky to Ohio, and in the latter state she has since maintained her home. After the death of her first husband she contracted a second marriage. On the 4th of June, 1872, she became the wife of Josiah Jackman, now deceased, and they had two children, Verne, who was born October 21, 1876, and Meda E., who was born May 29, 1880.

John B. Maule, to whom this review is dedicated, passed his boyhood and youth on the homestead farm in Seneca county, and he continued to be identified with its work until the time of his marriage. After duly availing himself of the advantages of the public schools he entered the Northwestern Ohio University at Ada, in which he prosecuted his studies for eight years. Mr. Maule devoted his attention to the work of the pedagogic profession for a period of fifteen years and in this vocation his success was of most pronounced order. The most of his work as a teacher was done in Pleasant township, Seneca county, and finally he became superintendent of the public schools of Greenspring, a position of which he remained incumbent three years, within which he did much to elevate the standard and systematize the work of the schools of this attractive village. On the 15th of April, 1898, he was appointed postmaster of Greenspring, at the time of the first administration of President McKinley. He has continuously served in this position since that time and he received re-appoint-

ment under Presidents Roosevelt and Taft. From 1898 until 1903 he was a member of the board of education of his home village and served as treasurer thereof. He served as village clerk of Greenspring for two years, was for four years a member of the village council and in 1905 he was elected mayor of Greenspring, of which office he remained in tenure two years, during which he gave a most satisfactory and progressive administration of the municipal affairs of the village. He also served two years as justice of the peace. Mr. Maule is affiliated with Greenspring Lodge, No. 427, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is past master, and he is also identified with the local organizations of the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World, in both of which he has filled the various official chairs and both of which he has represented in the grand lodges of the state. As may be naturally inferred he is a staunch supporter of the principles and policies of the Republican party and he attends and gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is a zealous member, besides which she holds membership in the Order of the Eastern Star.

On the 13th of February, 1890, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Maule to Miss Viana Mull, who was born in Sandusky on the 6th of May, 1865, and who is a daughter of Amos and Anna (Voorhees) Mull. Mr. and Mrs. Maule have four children, concerning whom the following brief data are incorporated in conclusion of this brief article: Charles B., who was born on the 25th of November, 1891, is now his father's assistant in the post office; John C. Howard Maule, who was born October 19, 1893, is now a student in the Greenspring High School as a member of the class of 1912; Zella, who was born July 30, 1895, is likewise a student in the high school; and Harry R., who was born May 2, 1904, attends the public school.

JOHN HENRY BRINKMAN, a farmer of Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, was born in Westphalen, Prussia, April 2, 1833, and was there reared and educated. He came to the United States in 1869 and located on his farm of seventy-one acres in Adams county on which he has since lived, making a record as a farmer of which any man might well be proud and winning esteem as a citizen from his fellow townsmen of all classes.

Mr. Brinkman was married in his native land on April 7, 1867, to Miss Menia Talgamaear, who died June 19, 1909. They had five children. Of these, Sophie, born April 10, 1868, married J. Oswald, of Clyde; Settia, born October 10, 1869, is a member of her father's household; Harmon born December 15, 1870, is a popular citizen of his native township. They were educated in the good schools of Adams township, and each is fully equipped to take his or her place in line for the battle of life, able to make his or her way honestly and valiantly to the success that crowns the efforts of the worthy and industrious. Mr. Brinkman is a man of fine character, respected by all who know him and influential in all affairs in which his most advanced townsmen are interested. He likes to speak of the fatherland, and he has taught his children to revere it while giving their allegiance to the land of his adoption.



His voyage across the Atlantic when he came here, with his young wife, is ever fresh in his memory, and he recalls the fact that in their passage they were beset by fierce storms which at times menaced the destruction of their sturdy vessel. It was a long journey from their old home in Prussia across the ocean to their new home in the interior of the great United States, but with all its perils, all its discomforts, it brought them to its rewards.

W. O. DILDINE has for more than three decades been in public service at Tiffin, Ohio, and is well known throughout Seneca county. The Dildine family, of which he is a representative, originally came to this country from Holland. They were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania, and it was in the "Keystone State" that Mr. Dildine's grandparents, Daniel and Margaret (McEwen) Dildine, were born. They came to Ohio in the early history of the Western Reserve, stopping first in Fairfield county and in 1822 removing to Seneca county, where he entered land on the present site of Green Lawn Cemetery. He later sold this and bought a farm about three miles east of there. Daniel Dildine here spent the rest of his life, and died in 1872. While they were in Fairfield county, near Lancaster, on August 9, 1815, their son William M., was born. He was brought by his parents to Seneca county, where he grew to manhood and married Christenia A. Berger, who had come to this county in 1830 with her uncle, and who passed the rest of her life and died in this county. Their son, W. O. Dildine, was born May 12, 1849, at Republic, in Scipio township, and spent a portion of his early boyhood with them on the farm. In 1858 the family home was established in Tiffin, and here he has ever since lived. At the age of sixteen he entered the county clerk's office as deputy under his father, who had been elected clerk of the court of Seneca county in 1863, and who filled that office for six years. From August, 1865, until 1882, young Dildine served as deputy, having been re-appointed by his father's successors. Again, in 1886, he took up the work of deputy in the clerk's office, and continued there without interruption until 1897, all told a period of twenty-eight years. And for six years afterward, until February, 1909, he was deputy in the probate court.

Mr. Dildine has a wife and five children, a daughter and four sons, namely: May, wife of L. J. Beecher, of Dayton, Ohio; Charles G., of Tiffin, Ohio; William O. Jr., manager of the telephone exchange at McAlister, Oklahoma; Phares W., a traveling salesman, representing the Sterling Emery Wheel Works of Tiffin, Ohio; and Franklin H., at home. Mrs. Dildine, formerly Miss Anna M. Glick, is a native of Clinton township, Seneca county.

Politically Mr. Dildine is a Republican, he having allied himself with this party in 1896 and cast his first Republican vote for President McKinley.

BURTON METZGER is one of Adams township's agriculturists, a man who has given valuable service in public office and one of the well known educators of the county, having served as the first school superintendent of the township in which he resides. He

was born September 25, 1868, in Adams township, and he is thus not only a native son, but one who has so well appreciated the advantages of this favored portion of the country that he has spent the greater part of his life here. Mr. Metzger's parents are H. V. and Elizabeth (Petticord) Metzger, both likewise natives of Seneca county. His grandfather, Daniel Metzger, one of the Buckeye state's plucky pioneers, who came to what was then the "west" early in the nineteenth century, entered a tract of land from the government. He was prominent and a man who was very active in his township in the welfare of the new country. He resided upon his homestead until his death in 1893, his son, H. V. Metzger, taking up the reins of management when he was called to lay them down. Mr. H. V. Metzger is still in charge of the old place. He and his wife were the parents of six children, namely: Homer, an attorney living in Clyde; Burton, on the farm in this township; Charles, deceased; Eva, wife of Arthur Jennings, and living at Liberty Center, Henry county, Ohio; Jacob, a farmer of this township; and Leroy, whose home is in Fremont, Sandusky county.

Burton Metzger was reared upon his father's farm, receiving a practical education in agriculture. He resided under the home roof until his marriage to Miss Delora Albright, which was solemnized November 2, 1890. Mrs. Metzger was born October 12, 1872, and is the daughter of Jacob and Jane (Kissler) Albright, who were among the early settlers in this part of Ohio. Three children have been born to this union, the eldest having died in infancy. Darl A. was born December 20, 1897, and Delton B., January 24, 1902. For ten years following his marriage Mr. Metzger taught school winters and in summer conducted operations on his farm. He is a public spirited man, the friend of good education and the supporter of all those good causes likely to result in the attainment of the greatest good for the greatest number. He is a Democrat and has been active in party ranks. He has held several township offices, having been trustee for nine years and he is president of the Good Roads Commission of Seneca county. He was Adams' Township's first school superintendent and was appointed by Judge Hoke of Tiffin, as one of the Blind Relief Commission. One of his most meritorious works was his promotion of the graveling of the roads in the locality. An additional business interest is his presidency of the West Lodi Creamery Company. Mr. and Mrs. Metzger are members of the Christian church and are active in its good works.

ELLSWORTH G. STALEY.—Endowed with that peculiar vein of grit and determination that is essentially American, Ellsworth G. Staley has steadily and surely climbed the ladder of attainments, and although he has not yet reached manhood's prime has gained a noteworthy position among his fellow men, being numbered among the successful attorneys of Tiffin and its city solicitor. A son of Clayton J. and Alice E. (Loose) Staley, he was born, August 3, 1883, in Clinton township, Seneca county, Ohio.

Coming with his parents to Tiffin when a lad of eight years,  
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he entered the public schools of this city, and being an ambitious and diligent scholar completed each grade, being graduated from the Tiffin High School with the class of 1903. Thrown practically upon his own resources, he resolved to further advance his education if possible, and proving himself industrious and trustworthy found plenty of employment, devoting a part of his time for several years in handling laundry and selling papers. In the meantime he read law with Platt & Black, acquiring legal knowledge of value, after which he entered the law department of the Ohio Northern University at Ada, and was there graduated in June, 1907, with the degree of B. L. Returning to Tiffin, Mr. Staley was associated with the firm of Platt & Black until February 1, 1909, when he opened his present office. He is meeting with satisfactory success in the practice of the profession of his choice, and is now giving satisfactory service as city solicitor, a position to which he was elected in November, 1909.

Mr. Staley married, July 22, 1907, Rose A. O'Brien, and they have two children: Alice R., born February 10, 1909; and Martha Jane. Mr. Staley is a Methodist in religion, and an active member of the Democratic party. Fraternally he belongs to Tiffin Lodge, No. 94, B. P. O. E.; to Tiffin Lodge, No. 402, F. O. E.; to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics; and to the Improved Order of Red Men.

ALBERTUS B. SMITH.—It has often been said the farmer is king of the earth, and one of the younger representatives of this independent and honorable calling is Albertus B. Smith, in whose hands has lain the management of the old Abbott homestead for the past six or seven years. Progressive in his methods and inclined to investigate the latest discoveries in his line he is one whose short record has been very satisfactory in result. He was born April 25, 1881, and is the son of D. A. and Eliza Tompkins Smith, natives of Ohio, whose early home was near Republic, Seneca county. The paternal grandparents were David and Susan (Niekirk) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania. D. A. Smith was born in 1845 and his wife's birthdate was September 12, 1853. Previous to his marriage D. A. Smith bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, upon which he moved just after the above mentioned event and improved it in a thorough manner. Here he has made his permanent home, for it is nearly forty years since it came into his possession and here his family of five children have been born and reared. They are Albertus B., Bertha A., R. T., Mattie and Eva. The elder Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Lutheran church, and the former is a staunch Democrat and has held office, as a member of the school board and is active in other township affairs.

Albertus B. Smith received his educational discipline in the public schools and became well grounded in the various departments of agriculture under the able tutelage of his father. After his marriage he assumed a more independent footing and removed to the old Abbott estate, where he has ever since engaged in farming. He is a public spirited citizen and keeps well informed on the



questions of the day, while in the matter of politics votes the Democratic ticket. He and his wife are consistent members of the Reformed church and Mrs. Smith belongs to the Ladies' Aid Society and is one of the teachers in the Sunday school.

Mr. Smith's marriage occurred April 6, 1904, the young woman to become his bride being Miss Gayetta Abbott, a daughter of Byron and Sarah (Fry) Abbott, born September 17, 1880. Byron Abbott is also a native son of the county, his birth place having been Fort Seneca, and the date of his nativity December 16, 1844. His wife was born November 26, 1851, the daughter of John and Margaret (Ross) Fry, natives of Germany and Ohio respectively. John Fry was one of a family of four children, the other members being Philip, George and Mary Nemier. The brothers when young men decided to leave their native country and to come to the "land of promise" across the seas, of which they had heard so many dazzling reports. They made the voyage in a sail boat and were six weeks on board. They landed in New York and later came on to Ohio. After taking upon himself the duties of a husband, John Fry located on a farm near Fort Seneca and became one of the progressive and successful farmers. This is especially worthy of remark when it is considered that when he came to Ohio he had only fifty cents in his pocket and that he worked out his own salvation from that humble beginning. He was born April 12, 1813, and died June 29, 1879; his wife was born September 15, 1826 and died February 18, 1861.

Byron Abbott was a man of good education and was a man of remarkable conversational gifts. He was reared upon the farm and resided upon his father's farm at Fort Seneca until his marriage on November 18, 1875. His father knew many of the thrilling experiences of the pioneer, among other things assisting in the capture of the Indian Peter Pork, who was a leader of the Seneca Indians. Byron Abbott and his wife were the parents of two children: John Fry, born January 19, 1879, and dying in infancy; Gayetta, wife of the subject of this biography. The latter was afforded good educational advantages, graduating with the class of 1896 at Fort Seneca and afterward gave seven years of efficient service as a teacher in the township schools, beginning upon this career when only seventeen years of age.

Byron Abbott, who was one of Seneca county's estimable citizens was independent in politics, voting for whom he believed the best man to fill an office, irrespective of party considerations. He gave a long service as member of the school board and for twelve years was president of this body. He was very young at the beginning of the Civil war, but as soon as he became eighteen he joined the minute men or "Squirrel Hunters" as they were called. He died August 24, 1907, his loss being generally mourned. His widow resides on the old homestead with her daughter and son-in-law, the subject of the sketch. The family of Mrs. Abbott's mother, the Rosses, came from New York and located in Seneca, they also being of agricultural stock, and among those progressive people who have made the county what it is. The family are now all deceased with the exception of Samuel, who resides in Pekin.

Illinois. He and his brother William served throughout the whole Civil war period. Mrs. Smith's grandfather, Lorenzo Abbott, was born January 18, 1802, and died September 19, 1876. His wife, whose maiden name was Jeannette Sherwood, was born November 24, 1809, and died March 15, 1877. She was of distinguished ancestry, being a descendant of Ethan Allen.

JOHN H. HODGE.—Among the substantial and honored citizens and agriculturists of Reed township, Seneca county, is John H. Hodge, who was born across the line in the sister county of Hancock, February 16, 1842. Having always enjoyed the respect and confidence of his associates Mr. Hodge has held public office and has been city clerk and trustee and he is one of the prominent Civil war veterans of this section. Glancing at his ancestry it is found that Mr. Hodge's father, William Hodge, was born in Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, the original Hodge emigrant to America, came from the Emerald Isle. William Hodge was a life long farmer and one of the worthy men of his locality. He married Nancy J. McGill, who like her husband was born in the Keystone state, and the ensuing is an enumeration of the children born to their union: Mary, married Samuel Arnold and both she and her husband are deceased; Sarah, became the wife of Samuel Eberson; Isabelle is deceased; Rachael, married Thomas McElroy and both are deceased; Angeline, married George Ream and resides in Lima, Ohio; James A. was killed by a falling tree; Lydia Marguerite, married Oscar Shetterly and makes her home at Geneva, Ohio; Eliza J., married John Sherman and has passed to the great beyond; Alexander lives in Fulton, Ohio. The subject is the fourth in order of birth.

William Hodge and his family moved from the Keystone state to Hancock county, Ohio, in the early '30s and continued his agricultural activities, while at the same time teaching school for twenty years. He served as justice of the peace for a number of years and was one of the most valued members of the Christian church. John H. Hodge passed the usual early life of the farmer's son, attending the district school in the winter season and assisting in the manifold duties of the farm in the summer. At the age of sixteen he considered his education completed and being well versed in agricultural pursuits he decided to begin an independent career and hired as a farm hand for three years. Then the long lowering Civil war cloud broke in all its fury and Mr. Hodge with most of the other young men of his acquaintance forgot all selfish interests and offered himself to the defense of the Union. He enlisted in Company A, Twenty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served until March, 1863, being mustered out at that time, owing to ill health. He served under General Rosecrans and participated in the battles of Ivy Mountain, Le Verne and Stone River. After his discharge he returned to the farm and exchanged the musket for the agricultural implement.

On January 1, 1867, Mr. Hodge became a recruit to the ranks of the Benedicts by his marriage with Lodemy Thompkins, daughter of William Thompkins and a native of Ohio. To their union





Edith Youngs. J. H. Dodge Nellie Dodge Carl E. Young.





were born the following children: Aurora, who married William Miller and resides near Chicago Junction, Ohio; Bertha, now the wife of John Bond and residing in Wood county; Clement, of Huron county; Lida, wife of Harry Wilds, of Toledo, Ohio; Grace, wife of John Fackler, making her home near Chicago Junction, Ohio. The first Mrs. Hodge was summoned to her eternal rest, and in 1896 Mr. Hodge chose for his second wife Mrs. Nettie Young. Mrs. Hodge, whose maiden name was Miss Nettie Riley, is a native of Morgan county and her parents, now deceased, were George and Elizabeth Riley. She is a descendant of one of the oldest and most honorable pioneer families in Ohio, its founders having come to the Buckeye state from Virginia. She was one of three daughters, Mary being deceased and Ella, who married Jerry Gheen, residing in Columbus. By her previous marriage she is the mother of two children. The son, Earl Young, who graduated from the Chicago Junction High School in 1908, resides with his step-father and teaches the district school in District 5, and the daughter, Edith J. Young, also resides with him. Miss Young attended the Tiffin High School and is proficient in music. The Hodge household is the center of refinement, good will and happiness and the most ideal of relations exist between step-father and step-children, the latter having always been devoted to the former. Mrs. Nettie Hodge graduated from the Shawnee public schools of Perry county, Ohio, in the year 1886, in a class of fifteen young ladies and two boys. She read an essay entitled, "Public Schools." She graduated with the honors of the class, and as a reward received free tuition of thirty-six months at Adrain, Ohio. Mr. Hodge is an enthusiastic lodge man. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has occupied all the chairs and to which he has belonged since 1868 and he is also affiliated with the Rebekahs. He served as secretary of the latter for eighteen years. Both he and his wife are generous and faithful members of the Baptist church. Mrs. Hodge is one of the useful and worthy ladies of Reed township and has membership in the Rebekahs and Women's Relief Corp of Attica. Mr. Hodge has resided for thirty-three years on the present homestead, which is located four and one-half miles northeast of Republic. He is vice president of the Lodi Creamery Company, a creamery located in an inland town and which transacts a business of sixteen thousand dollars a year.

HENRY VALE METZGER, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Whiteman) Metzger, was born in Adams township August 22, 1847. His father was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, August 18, 1818, his mother, in Ohio in 1819. She was a daughter of Daniel and Susan (Coleman) Whiteman and came to Ohio with her parents in 1832, locating on a farm in this county owned by Burton Metzger at this time. The land was entered by Daniel Whiteman, and the subject of this notice now holds the original parchment bearing the signature of President Andrew Jackson. Daniel Metzger and Sarah Whiteman were married about 1838 and began farming on grandfather Whiteman's historic purchase. That pioneer was born in Pennsylvania in 1797. His wife was born there in 1794.

They were married in the Keystone state and soon came to Ohio, locating first in Fairfield county, whence they removed to Pickaway county, a mile south of Circleville. Thence they moved to a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Adams township. They made the trip on horseback, blazing the way in order that others might the more easily come after them. Mr. Metzger's great-grandfather also was a pioneer in Seneca county, entering land just north of Whiteman's, in Adams township, so early that there were then only fourteen voters within the present borders of the township. These worthy pioneers were active in advancing civilization in this then new country, especially in the establishment and maintenance of schools and churches.

Mr. Metzger lived with his parents until his marriage. Elizabeth Petticord became his wife on November 8, 1867, and they located on a farm on the Clyde road inherited by her. It was a comparatively new place of eighty acres. They built a house on the land, cleared it and eventually made of it a good farm. Mrs. Metzger was a daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Rule) Petticord, natives of Maryland, who came to Seneca county with her grandparents, John and Mary A. (Guisbert) Petticord, early in the nineteenth century. It is of record that John Petticord entered about six hundred acres of land in the county. The traditions of the vicinity are to the effect that the Petticords were among the very foremost citizens, active in all that tended to the public weal. Mr. and Mrs. Metzger lived at their first location seven years. They moved thence to a favorable location on Honey creek, thence to Fulton county. After four years residence there they returned to Seneca county and bought their old homestead on which they have since lived, farming industriously and successfully. They have had born to them six children: Homer, is a lawyer at Clyde; Burton, lives in Adams township; Charles is dead; Eva lives in Henry county; Jacob is a citizen of Adams township; Leroy lives at Fremont, Ohio. Mr. Metzger is a member of the Union Christian church. He has been a life long friend and advocate of improvement in the public educational system. As a member of the school board for a dozen years, he devoted himself heart and soul to the introduction of the graded system, working, planning, arguing with opponents, smoothing away difficulties, overcoming obstacles, until at length he succeeded in having the system adopted in Adams township, the first township in the county to take that important step and which marks that township in 1893 as a pioneer in a work that is now valued everywhere in all the country round about. Mr. Metzger has given his children excellent educational advantages, sending them to Heidelberg College. Their son, Homer took a four years' course, making up two years in teaching. He was the valedictorian of his class and his valedictory address, in its substance and in its delivery, demonstrated his breadth of view and his dramatic intensity as a public speaker. Mr. Metzger himself was a student at the old academy at Republic, under the preceptorship of Prof. Aaron Schuyler, later and until recently the incumbent of the chair of mathematics at Oberlin. Later he pursued his studies at Heidelberg.



Mr. Metzger is a Democrat in all that honored descriptive implies. It was not as a Democrat, however, but as a citizen whose love of public enlightenment was well known and widely respected that he was repeatedly elected to offices in which he had to do with the public schools of his township and county. For their advancement he has spent much time and money that the legitimate demands of these offices did not call for. His children have some of them been efficient teachers in public schools. His career is of sufficient length to cover the cruder experiences of former years as well as the pleasanter ones of these days of public conveniences. He recalls with much interest the fact that when he began his married life in the township he split basswood logs to make slabs out of which to build his house, the same that was his home for several years, until he was enabled to replace it with a better one.

HERMAN SCHEIBER.—Measuring his own ability and hewing his way straight to the line thus marked out, Herman Scheiber has gained a position of worth among the substantial and respected citizens of Tiffin, as secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Tiffin Manufacturing Company being identified with one of the leading enterprises of this part of Seneca county. A son of John Scheiber, he was born in Warren township, Huntington county, Indiana, March 22, 1852. While a resident of Stark county, Ohio, John Scheiber married Rufina Weiler, and very soon after taking that important step in life he migrated to Indiana, settling, in 1851, in Warren township, Huntington county, where they lived for a number of years, from there moving to Huntington township in the same county.

Living in Warren township, Indiana, until fourteen years of age, Herman Scheiber obtained the rudiments of his education in the old log school house typical of pioneer days. After removing with the family to Huntington township, he assisted his father on the home farm until attaining his majority, when he learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed several years, his natural mechanical skill commanding good wages. Coming to Tiffin, Ohio, January 1, 1887, Mr. Scheiber purchased an interest in the Tiffin Manufacturing Company, a stock company which had been established in this city in 1875 for the especial purpose of manufacturing all kinds of church furniture. Since becoming a stockholder in the concern he has ably filled the position of secretary, treasurer and general manager, Mr. J. W. Hoffman being president. Under his efficient management the business has been largely increased, the products of the factory being shipped to every part of the union.

Mr. Scheiber married, in 1889, Pauline Wagner, of Tiffin, and into their home four children have made their advent, namely: Richard and Paul, graduates of the Dayton School, are associated with their father in the management of the factory; and Herman Jr. and Mary E. are still in school.

Mr. Scheiber and his family are trust worthy and valued members of St. Joseph's Catholic church. Politically Mr. Scheiber is a firm supporter of the principles promulgated by the Democratic party. Feeling entitled after his many years of successful labor

to a brief vacation, he sailed, April 23, 1910, for Europe, while abroad visiting many of the more important cities and towns.

**LEDRU R. PARKER.**—This well known citizen and influential business man of Fostoria is not only a representative of one of the sterling pioneer families of Ohio, with whose annals the name has been identified for nearly a century, but he is also a scion of a family that was founded in America in the early Colonial epoch. The lineage on the paternal side is traced back to Edward Parker, who came from England and settled in Plymouth colony, in 1643. It is a matter of record that this worthy ancestor was fined six shillings and three pence for not having in his possession a flintlock and proper ammunition. Members of the family were found enrolled as soldiers in the Continental line in the war of the Revolution.

Ledru R. Parker was born in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of January, 1850, and is a son of Moses A. and Catherine (Christy) Parker, the former of whom was born in the state of Connecticut and the latter in Kinsman, Ohio. Moses Parker came with his parents from Connecticut to Ohio in 1816 and the long and weary journey was made principally with ox teams. The family located in Kinsman township, Trumbull county, and there Moses Parker continued to maintain his home and to be identified with agricultural pursuits until 1846, when he removed with his family to Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, where he remained for a period of eight years, at the expiration of which he returned to Trumbull county, Ohio, whence he removed a number of years later to Henry county, this state, where he died in 1890, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away in 1880. They became the parents of twelve children, Ledru, the subject of this review, being the eleventh in order of birth. Mary, is the wife of Marvin Trott, of Kearney, Nebraska; Orestes H., resides at Cochran, Crawford county, Pennsylvania; Caroline, is the wife of Samuel Moffitt, of Warren, Ohio. The other eight are deceased. Andrew C., who was a resident of Kinsman township, Trumbull county, Ohio, died July 5, 1910. He was a soldier in the Union army at the time of the Civil war. He was a member of the Forty-first Ohio Regiment (Company A), his service for the cause being of nearly five years' duration, in which time he participated in all the engagements with which his regiment was identified. He was twice married, first to Mary A. Rogers in 1861, and second to her sister, Miss Charlotte Rogers, who survives him and resides in Kinsman, Ohio. Another brother, James A. Parker, was killed in battle on June 14, 1862. He was a member of the One Hundredth Pennsylvania Regiment, known as the Roundhead Regiment. A third brother, Albert L. Parker, was a member of Company A, of the Forty-first Ohio and died in a hospital at Victoria, Texas, September 16, 1865.

Ledru R. Parker was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and is indebted to the district schools for his early educational training. At the age of eighteen years he found employment in connection with the lumbering industry in Trumbull

county, Ohio, where he secured a job cutting saw logs and where he applied himself with such energy as to secure sufficient funds to enable him to purchase a half interest in a saw mill at Kinsman, Trumbull county, this state. He continued to be successfully identified with the operation of this mill until 1873, but in the financial panic which began in that year he not only lost every dollar he had made from his earnest efforts, but also found himself in debt to the amount of thirty-five hundred dollars. He did not lose courage under these deplorable circumstances and soon secured employment as inspector for a lumber company, whose headquarters were at Conneaut, Ohio. A year later he secured an interest in the business and he was concerned with the lumbering operations of the company in Henry county, this state, where they erected a saw mill and conducted a large and prosperous business. While a resident of that county Mr. Parker affected the incorporation of Hamler and he had the distinction of serving as president of its first board of trustees. There he also served for several years in the office of the justice of the peace and as mayor. In the autumn of 1891 Mr. Parker took up his residence in the city of Fostoria, and at the time of his removal to this place he was the owner of several farms and had somewhat extensive interests in oil wells in this section of the state. He has continued to be prominently identified with lumbering interests and has built up a large export trade, making many shipments of lumber to Australia. He is one of the progressive and substantial business men and honored citizens of Fostoria, is trustee of the Fostoria Board of Trade and has served as a member and as president of the city council. In politics he is a staunch advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He and his wife are zealous members of the Presbyterian church and he is a member of the board of trustees of the church of this denomination in Fostoria. He is identified with Fostoria Lodge, No. 305, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is past noble grand, besides which he has served as district deputy of the Grand Lodge of the state.

On the 14th of April, 1874, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Parker to Miss Jane L. McGranahan, of Greenville, Pennsylvania, in which state she was born and reared, being of Irish lineage. She is a daughter of Colonel L. N. McGranahan. He was a man of influence and honor, strong in political affairs, a member of the Pennsylvania state legislature, colonel of state militia and justice of the peace up to the time of his demise in January, 1874. He was born in Greenville, Pennsylvania, and there lived his life. Mr. and Mrs. Parker have one child, Luella, who was born on the 14th of October, 1875. She was graduated in the Fostoria High School and is now the wife of David Houser, residing on a finely improved farm owned by Mr. Parker in Kinsman township, Trumbull county, this state.

ERNEST J. MILLER was born in Adams township, March 15, 1892, one of the five sons of Daniel L. and Mary C. (Butz) Miller, all of whom are living in the township. The names of the others are Orrin A., Alton R., Roscoe D. and Wade C. Miller. The parents were also natives of Adams township, the father born May



1, 1858, the mother February 2, 1862. Ernest J. was a member of his parents' household until his marriage. He married Miss Lillie M. Norris February 23, 1907, and she has borne him two children, Delsie M., born May 18, 1908, and Florine E., March 2, 1910. Mrs. Miller is a daughter of Ephraim and Sarah Norris, natives of Adams township. Her mother was born in the state of New York January 9, 1835, a daughter of Anthony and Catharine (Ritter) Long, her father a Pennsylvanian, her mother a New Yorker by birth. Mr. and Mrs. Long came to Ohio in 1835, journeying a part of the way by boat on Lake Erie, and located in Crawford county. Thence they came later to Republic, Seneca county, where Mr. Long, a carpenter, worked at his trade. After nine years residence there they lived for a time on their farm, but eventually moved to Illinois, where Mr. Long died about twenty years later. Their daughter became a member of the family of her uncle, Nathaniel Norris, when she was about ten years old, and so remained till December 21, 1865, when, aged about thirty-one, she became the wife of Ephraim Norris. Her husband was the son of Lot and Laurana (Todd) Norris, Marylanders, who made a journey to Ohio in the memorable year of the election of General Jackson to the presidency of the United States. Their birthplace was the historic old town of Frederick. Ephraim Norris was born on his parents' old homestead December 16, 1833. He was educated in district schools, and when he was twenty-one years old went to Michigan. After one year there he removed to Illinois, whence, after five years, he returned to Ohio, where he was soon afterward married. After his marriage he located on a farm of one hundred and eighty acres, a portion of his estate of two hundred and forty acres in Adams township, and gave his attention to farming and stock raising with a success that was very satisfactory. In politics he was Republican. He and his wife were members of the United Brethren church. Of their five children three survive. Eleanora, is the wife of Edward Grover, a farmer in Adams township; Olive, is a member of her parents' household; Lillie M., is Mrs. Ernest J. Miller. With her husband she lives on a farm owned by her mother. Ephraim Norris died April 25, 1907, at Greenspring, where his widow, with her daughter Olive, lives, Mrs. Norris being now about seventy-five years old. He was a man of prominence in the community, respected by a wide circle of acquaintances.

Ernest J. Miller was educated in the public schools in Adams township. As a Democrat he has been elected to membership of the township school board, on which he has served with much ability. He is a member of St. Jacob's church. Socially he is a member of the Mutual Benefit Association of Greenspring. His native public spirit and his natural love for the township of his birth tend to make him helpful as a citizen to all measures which in his opinion promise to benefit any considerable number of his fellow citizens, and no meritorious public movement fails to have his advocacy and practical assistance. He is popularly regarded as one of the leaders among the younger men of the township and a bright and useful future is predicted for him.



RESIDENCE OF ERNEST J. MILLER





RUSSELL G. SHANNON is one of Seneca county's honorable and progressive citizens, one whose hand is given to the support of every measure looking toward the advancement and benefit of the whole community. An agriculturist of the highest type, he is also the promoter of public enterprises, being, for instance, president of the Old Fort Telephone Company and one of those instrumental in bringing this great convenience to reality. He is the stalwart friend of good education, and he is also well known in lodge circles, having membership in some of the most important organizations. In addition Mr. Shannon has an ancestry of which he is "proud without presumption," on the maternal side being in direct line from the Clan Gregor, famous in song and story, and he is able to claim descent from some of the most famous of Colonial patriots and public men, as well as from noted Englishmen.

Russell G. Shannon was born March 20, 1870, the son of John and Mary (Clagett) Shannon, his birthplace being Seneca county. The date of his father's birth was June 28, 1847, and that of Mary, his wife, May 10, 1851. These worthy people, native Ohioans, were united in marriage October 29, 1868. One son, the subject, was the fruit of their union. John Shannon, a much esteemed man, who had engaged in farming in Pleasant township, was gathered to his fathers on October 10, 1884. He was the son of George and Mary (Lotsenheiser) Shannon, the father a native of Ireland and the mother, of Stark county, Ohio. To them were born the following eight children: John, William, Mary, Frank, Melissa, Louis, Nelson and Samuel.

Mr. Shannon's mother, whose maiden name was Mary Clagett is the daughter of John and Juliet (Littler) Clagett, West Virginians, who came to the Buckeye state in the year 1832. They were married December 20, 1827, in their native state, and the following is an enumeration of the children born to them: Isaac Henry, born June 14, 1829, in West Virginia, died in November, 1900, in Nebraska; Josiah, born August 23, 1831, in West Virginia, died in February, 1870, in Fort Seneca; Hezekiah, born July 1, 1833, in Seneca county, died November 27, 1864, in Pleasant township; Margaret, born March 20, 1835, in Seneca county, died in her youth, September 19, 1852; Eliza A., born February 15, 1837, in Seneca county, died June 19, 1861, in Shelby county, Missouri; Caroline, born September 17, 1839, in Seneca county, died in Virginia; John William, born June 21, 1842, in Seneca county, died August 3, 1842; James Littler, born August 14, 1844, in Seneca county, died September 17, 1874, in Hardy county, West Virginia; and Mary P., born May 10, 1851, the mother of Mr. Shannon, is the youngest born of this large family and the only one living at the present day. All but Isaac Henry and Josiah were born on the farm where the subject of this review now resides.

Her father, John Clagett, was the son of Josiah and Elizabeth (Norton) Clagett, and Josiah was the son of Henry and Ann (Magruder) Clagett, whose marriage occurred in 1756. The father was born in Prince George county, Maryland, in 1730, and died in 1778, while in service in the Revolutionary war. Henry was the son of Thomas and Ann (Belt) Clagett, who were married

in 1724. He, Thomas Clagett, was a prominent man in his day and held several public offices. He was justice from 1730 to 1737 and in the year 1735 acted as vestryman of St. Paul's parish, Prince George county. He was one of the Colonial judges of land commission and was superintendent of the laying out of Upper Marlborough and Nottingham. Thomas Clagett was the son of Captain Thomas and Mary Clagett, who were married in 1700, the former, born in 1678 and dying in 1733, having been captain of the Provincial militia; justice of Prince George county in 1707; member of the Maryland House of Burgesses in 1712; and judge of the Orphans' Court in 1730. Captain Thomas Clagett was the son of Captain Thomas (I) and Mary, widow of Richard Hooper, who were married in 1674. He was the first Clagett in America, having emigrated to Calvert county, Maryland, in the year 1671. He was commissioned to lay out towns and ports in that county in 1681 and he served until 1683. In 1692 he held the honorable office of vestryman in Christ Church parish, Calvert county. He was the son of Colonel Edward and Margaret (Adams) Clagett, born in 1605 or 1607. He was an officer in the British navy and his father, George Clagett, was born somewhere about the year 1570. He was mayor of Canterbury, England, in the years 1609, 1622 and 1632. George Clagett was the son of Richard Clagett, born either in the year 1525 or 1530. He married Margaret, a daughter of Sir Robert Youder. His father, Robert Clagett, was a native of Malling, Kent county, England, and was born near the beginning of the sixteenth century, probably in the year 1490.

Going back a number of generations it will be observed that Henry Clagett married Ann Magruder in 1756 and here the Scotch element enters and the blood of the doughty Clan Gregor. Ann Magruder was the daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Jackson) Magruder, the former a member of the Commission of Safety at the time of the Revolution. Samuel was the son of Ninian and Elizabeth (Brewer) Magruder, the former born in Prince George county, Maryland, in 1686. Ninian was the son of Samuel and Sarah (Beall) Magruder and Samuel was the son of Alexander and Margaret (Braithwaite) Magruder, who came from Scotland to Calvert county, Maryland, about the year 1652. He had been an officer in the army of Charles II of England. He was the son of Alexander Magruder, born in Scotland in 1569, who won as his wife Lady Margaret Drummond, daughter of the Lord Averndriel (Clan Campbell) and the widow of Lord Bellyclose. Alexander I. was a member of the Clan Gregor, which was an outlaw clan in Scotland from the time of Robert Bruce to the reign of George III. This condition of affairs was in the first place due to the fact that they were involved in the opposition movement against Bruce in the fourteenth century. For this reason and partly because of jealousy roused in the breast of Scotland's first king on account of the claims of the Gregors to royal lineage, they were persecuted with great persistence. This persecution reached its height when David II, one of the successors of Robert Bruce, gave the Gregor property to the Campbell Clan.

It is interesting to know that the wife of Alexander Magruder belonged to the Clan Campbell.

The Gregors, or MacGregors, as they came to be called, went into the mountains and waged continual warfare, usually with disastrous results to themselves. They came into their own again when George III of England in 1774 repealed the acts under which this persecution had been carried on. History knows nothing to equal the trials of the Magruders previous to the patronage of the English king. Among the things which they were prohibited to do was to go in parties of more than four, or to carry any other weapon save a blunt knife, or even to defend themselves when attacked. The severest of their sufferings were at the hands of the Stuarts, but the MacGregors asked no quarter.

A part of their troubles came about in this wise. A government forester, named Drummond, was killed by three MacGregors, who mistook him for a trespasser. They met and over the dead body swore to make a clan cause of the affair, every MacGregor assuming responsibility for the deed. Again at the battle of Glen Fruin two hundred MacGregors met to fight the allied forces of the Buchannons and Calhouns, numbering eight hundred. Before the battle a body of students came upon the scene as spectators, and fearing lest they join the allied forces the MacGregor chief ordered them to be bound and taken to a nearby church until after the fight, when he intended to release them. But the man left to guard them became weary and drawing his dagger deliberately murdered them. This act was by no means sanctioned by the clan, in fact the chief, Alexander, declared that the MacGregors would live to rue the day it happened. In the Glen Fruin fight the MacGregors utterly routed their adversaries, of whom they killed two hundred, losing only two of their own men. In spite of their hardships, the MacGregors flourished, for they were of tough fibre, as indeed they had to be to withstand the persecution of five hundred years. Their descendants in America are many, and wherever they are found they are recognized as the stanchest and finest of citizen stock. They hold enthusiastic national meetings, one held in Washington D. C., in October, 1909, having been a most interesting occasion and attended by Magruders, Magruthers, Gregors, Gregories and those bearing other forms of the name.

It is of such stock as this that Russell G. Shannon comes. Some one has declared "In every nook and corner of the wide world the traveler finds the Scotchman. Everywhere, plodding, patient, determined, steadfast, reliable, prosperous." In the present case none of these adjectives are misplaced, at least not the best of them. Mr. Shannon, whose father died when he was a lad, became useful when young and resided with his mother until his marriage. That event occurred October 26, 1898, the lady to become his wife and the mistress of his household being Verna B. Voorhies. She was born June 21, 1872, and is the daughter of Oliver D. and Sophia (Stahl) Voorhies, natives of Ohio. More of this excellent family will be found in the article under the caption, "Milton Voorhies," contained on other pages of this work.



Mr. Shannon is well educated, having received his preliminary mental discipline in the schools of Seneca county and later attending the state university at Columbus and the Valparaiso Normal School. In politics he is a loyal Democrat. He finds pleasure in his fraternal relations, which extend to the Masons and to the Knighted Order of Tented Maccabees. In his calling as an agriculturist and his identification with public spirited movements he enjoys the respect and consideration of the community in which he makes his home. Mrs. Shannon is a member of the United Brethren church.

GEORGE E. BARE.—The descendant of an early and honored pioneer family of Seneca county, George E. Bare, of Tiffin, now serving as deputy sheriff of the county, holds high rank among the more intelligent and enterprising residents of this city, and is held in high esteem by all that know him. A son of Michael and Virginia (Saul) Bare, he was born, November 18, 1860, in Eden township, and was there reared to agricultural pursuits.

He received very good educational advantages, attending the district schools until about nineteen years of age, in the meantime obtaining a practical knowledge of the various branches under the wise instructions of his father. Completing his studies at Heidelberg College, Mr. Bare taught school for awhile in Iowa. Returning to Seneca county, he took up his residence at Melmore. He has been active in public affairs, and in addition to having served as clerk of Eden township, was for six years assessor of that township. Since his election as deputy sheriff, Mr. Bare has devoted his energies to the duties of his position. Fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Bare married in 1884, Margaret E. Hyatt, and to them three children have been born, namely: Howard, in the employ of Frantz, Sloane Company, of Toledo, Ohio; Charles, who was graduated from the Tiffin High School with the class of 1910; and Marie, a pupil in the Tiffin High School.

JOSEPH W. REIFF has been an able representative of the agricultural industry in Seneca county and he is now living retired in the attractive village of Bloomville. Mr. Reiff reverts with a due measure of satisfaction to the fact that he is a native son of the Buckeye state and a scion of one of its early pioneer families. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, on June 25, 1837.

Samuel and Elizabeth (Gueable) Reiff, parents of Joseph W. Reiff were both born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, from which state they removed to Ohio, first settling in Richland county and later in Wyandot county and in 1843 they established their home in Seneca county. Samuel Reiff was a farmer by vocation. He and his wife died in Bloom township, Seneca county. They became the parents of the following children: Abram, Joseph W., of this sketch; Rev. Samuel E., who is a clergyman; Susan, wife of Elijah Kagy; Aaron, deceased; William; Franklin, deceased; and Henry M.

Joseph W. Reiff gained his early experiences in connection

with the practical affairs of life thorough his identification with the work of the home farm. His early educational discipline was secured in the common schools of Wyandot and Seneca counties and as a youth he served a practical apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade to which he devoted his attention for a number of years. When the Civil war was precipitated upon a divided nation, he manifested his loyalty and patriotism by enlisting as a private in Company K, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Ohio Volunteer infantry, with which he identified himself in the year 1864 and with which he served as a carpenter. He became physically disabled and finally was sent to a hospital, in which he became a nurse, a position which he retained until the close of the war, when he received his honorable discharge. Mr. Reiff became a resident of Seneca county in 1868 and continued to be actively identified with agricultural pursuits in this county until 1901, when he established his home in Bloomville, where he has since lived retired. In politics he gives an unqualified allegiance to the Republican party and he has shown a deep interest in all that touches the welfare of his home county. He has served as school director and also as supervisor of Bloom township and he is known as a broad minded and public spirited citizen. He is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and both he and his wife were zealous members of the Evangelical church at Melmore, Ohio, until 1902 when they united with the Methodist Episcopal church at Bloomville, Ohio, and during his membership in both these organizations Mr. Reiff was for many years a Sunday school teacher and class leader.

In 1867 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Reiff to Miss Lavina A. Bever, and no children have been born to this union. Mrs. Reiff is a daughter of George and Sabina (Bretz) Bever and was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, May 12, 1842. Her mother was born in Pennsylvania and her father was born in Virginia. When two years of age Mrs. Bever removed with her parents to Fairfield county, Ohio, and in 1823 the parents with their family came to Seneca county and located near Melmore, where Mr. Bretz, the father, secured for his home one hundred and sixty acres of land, and for each of his children he also obtained one hundred and sixty acres within five miles of his home. Mr. Bever came from Virginia to Fairfield county a few years before the Bretz family removed to Seneca county and with them he came on to Seneca county, where on April 7, 1825, he married Sabina Bretz.

Mr. Bretz had nine children and for each of them, as above mentioned, he secured one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Seneca county. It is interesting to record that three of these farms are still in the possession of his descendants. George and Sabina (Bretz) Bever became the parents of eleven children, eight of whom attained to years of maturity. Samuel Bever died at Nevada, Ohio, October 17, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Bever were zealous members of the United Brethren church and they were held in high esteem in the community in which they established their home in pioneer days.

ARTHUR W. SAUNDERS.—In his native city of Fostoria the subject of this review holds the position of ticket agent in the offices of the Nickel Plate Railroad and he is also a valued member of the city council, showing that in his case there can be no application of the Biblical aphorism that "A prophet is not without honor save in his own country."

Mr. Saunders was born at Fostoria, on the 11th of August, 1879, and is a son of George M. and Geletta O. (Dicken) Saunders, both of whom still reside in this city, where the father has given his attention to the grocery business for many years, being one of the representative citizens of the county. The subject of this review is indebted to the public schools of Fostoria for his early educational training and after leaving school he was here employed for some time in a drug store. At the age of eighteen years he became a messenger boy for the local offices of the Nickel Plate Railroad and through his able and careful services he won rapid promotion, as is shown by the fact that during his connection with this railroad corporation he has had charge of every official desk in Fostoria with the exception of that of agent. He has held his present responsible position since 1906. In politics Mr. Saunders is aligned as an uncompromising advocate of the principles of the Republican party and he has taken an active part in its local work. In 1909 he was elected councilman at large and in January, 1910, he assumed his seat in the city council. He has proved a loyal and progressive member of this municipal body and has put forth every effort to conserve the interests of the city and its people. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 288, Free and Accepted Masons, and with Garfield Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. He is owner of an attractive modern residence at No. 127 North Vine street.

On the 11th of February, 1902, Mr. Saunders was united in marriage to Miss Mary V. Kridler, of Fostoria, and they have one son, Charles D., who was born on the 31st of March, 1903.

GEORGE ALTON NYE.—One of the substantial and representative men of Reed township is George Alton Nye who is bound by every tie to Seneca county, among them being the primary tie of birth, his nativity having occurred in Seneca county on the 7th of October, 1860. Since reaching mature years he has been identified in a praise worthy manner with the many sided life of the community, where naturally he is well known. In addition to his activities in the line of general agriculture he likewise enjoys prestige as a breeder of fine horses and stock.

The former seat of the Nye family in this country was the state of New York, and it was in Geneseo county, that state, that the subject's father, George Nye, was born, April 19, 1826. He removed to Seneca county with his parents when about six years of age and the family homestead is now the site of the town of Siam. George Nye and his father were thus early enough to be among the pioneers, and the privations and joys peculiar to the early settlers in the Buckeye state were theirs in fullest measure. George Nye was one of the famous "Forty-niners," in 1849 making an over-





RESIDENCE OF GEORGE A. NYE AND FAMILY



land trip to California in company with a friend, an ox team being the conveyance and the time consumed in the journey, five months and sixteen days. About twenty-three years of age at the time of his migration, he remained in California about seven years and returned with seven thousand dollars in gold dust. Soon afterward he purchased the valuable farm where Mr. Nye now resides. The maiden name of his wife, the subject's mother, was Phoebe Taber. She was born in Cayuga county, New York, in 1842 and was one year old when her parents removed from New York to Ohio. George and Phoebe (Taber) Nye gave a number of good citizens to the state. George Alton is the eldest; G. G. (he had no other name than these initials), married Minna Garchies and resides in Reed township; two children died in infancy; Philip married Alice Finlay and resides in Alabama; Morton, who lives in Alabama, married Lucia Moss; Myrtle became the wife of John Baker, and lives in Shelby; Carrie married Henry Bassett, of Alabama; and Jessie is deceased. The elder Mr. Nye was summoned to his eternal rest February 5, 1901, and the mother survives and makes her residence in Reed township.

Mr. Nye received his education in the district schools and attended them until his twentieth year. In the meantime, however, he had become thoroughly grounded in the vocation which he had chosen and had the advantage of a thorough training in the various departments of agriculture under the instruction of his father. About 1880 he began to assume much of the actual responsibility of farming and in the past thirty years has achieved much success, being enrolled among the representative farmers of the county. He has also won a name for himself as a breeder of Percheron horses and he owns some very fine stock.

On January 21, 1892, Mr. Nye laid the foundation of a happy domestic life by his marriage to Miss Effie Martin, daughter of A. and C. L. Martin. She was born in Erie county and she had been a school teacher for six years prior to her marriage. She came to Seneca county with her husband. Their union has been cemented by the birth of the following children: Roscoe, born December 29, 1892; Marshall, September 7, 1894; Harold, deceased; Ethel, September 12, 1897; Edith, January 8, 1900; Russell, June 1, 1902; and Phoebe, March 15, 1906. In his political Views Mr. Nye is Republican and is interested in current affairs and the ultimate advancement of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Nye are members of the Baptist church and they take an active part in its work. They reside on a farm of two hundred and eighty acres.

CHARLES H. BERLEKAMP.—Seneca county looks to her younger generation to maintain her present high standing, and one of the most promising of Pleasant township's young citizens is Charles H. Berlekamp. He is a native son, his birth having occurred April 6, 1885, and his parents being H. B. and Caroline (Cook) Berlekamp, natives of Prussia, the father having cast his fortunes with the United States in 1869 and the mother, in 1870. They were married about a year after their change of residence, and



took up their home in Adams township, later removing to Pleasant township, where the father had made himself the owner of some four hundred acres of land.

Charles H. Berlekamp spent his early days upon his father's farm and received a practical training in the many departments of his calling under the guidance of his father. He received his mental discipline in the schools of Old Fort and the district schools of Pleasant township. On the 21st day of March, 1907, he laid the foundations of a household of his own by his union with Miss Grace V. Bishop, daughter of Rev. W. D. and Millie (Elsea) Bishop, natives of Hancock county, Ohio, now residing in Rising Sun. The Rev. Mr. Bishop, who is a clergyman in the United Brethren church, has been in the ministry about fourteen years. He was born in June, 1866, and received his education in the schools of Findlay, Hancock county, and at Otterbein University at Westerville. His wife was born September 22, 1870, in Findlay, her parents being Newton and Jane (Lyons) Elsea, Ohioans. The grandparents on the paternal side of Mrs. Berlekamp were John and Eliza (Scathorn) Bishop, who were born near Columbus and both are now deceased. Mrs. Berlekamp who was born March 7, 1889, is one of three sisters and one brother, the names of the others being Maud, Joy, and Thelma. She was educated in the schools of Old Fort and was graduated with the class of 1906.

Shortly after his marriage Mr. Berlekamp bought a farm of ninety-four acres, located near his father's homestead, and he and his wife now make their home there. He is one of those progressive agriculturists who keep in touch with the latest discoveries in their honorable profession and welcome, rather than scoff at, any new idea. He is an independent voter, for he believes that the best man and the best measures upon any occasion should outweigh mere partizanship. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church at Old Fort and take an active part in its affairs, giving their hand to all its good causes.

CHARLES D. HOLTZ.—We have now to consider the career of one of the most successful and popular men in Seneca county, one who, though a strong Republican, has been since 1872 elected and re-elected to important public offices at almost every election in a community overwhelmingly Democratic whenever a straight vote is cast. Mr. Holtz was born January 31, 1846, a son of Jacob and Susanna (Huss) Holtz, natives of Fredericktown, Maryland. His mother came to Seneca county in 1827, his father, in 1834. They were brought by their parents by wagon over the old Cumberland road. Jacob Holtz and David Huss, Mr. Holtz's grandfathers, bought land here and were among the early pioneers in Seneca county. The Holtz genealogy is a most interesting one: Jacob Holtz, great-grandfather of Charles D., was born November 30, 1753, his wife, January 8, 1756. They had children, born at the dates here given: Jacob, June 19, 1786; John, March 11, 1788; Catharine, June 22, 1790; Anna Mary, October 29, 1793; Elizabeth April 30, 1796. Jacob Holtz, born June 19, 1786, married Susanna Feaga October 20, 1812. Her father, a Hessian, came to the

colonies in Revolutionary days as a hired soldier of King George and deserted to fight for liberty side by side with his former foes. As a means to preventing possible future trouble he changed his name from Fieye to Feaga. Jacob and Susanna (Feaga) Holtz had children as follows: William Holtz, born January 24, 1814; Jacob P., born June 14, 1815; Mary E., born February 9, 1817; George, born February 20, 1819; Lewis E., born June 4, 1821; Charlotte, born May 24, 1823; Susanna, born April 29, 1825; Dennis, born March 21, 1827. Jacob P. and Susanna Huss married about 1840 and had three children: Jacob S., born August 8, 1842; Charles D., born January 31, 1846; John, born February 14, 1850. Charles D. married, October 9, 1872, Mary L. Smith, born June 20, 1854, a daughter of Samuel H. and Charlotte (Van Syckel) Smith. She bore him three children: Grace, born March 15, 1874; Nellie, September 11, 1877; Jessie, August 24, 1883. Grace is the wife of H. W. Robinson, of Greenspring. Jessie married F. H. Cronniger of Seneca county, but now resides at Bluffton, Indiana, and is principal of a school there. Nellie is a member of her parents' household.

The parents of Mrs. Charles D. Holtz came from New Jersey. The father, Samuel H. Smith, was born at Asbury, New Jersey, February 3, 1825, and in November, 1846, was married to Charlotte Van Syckel at Bethlehem, New Jersey. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Greenspring, Ohio, and the journey is described as follows: They traveled by stage to Philadelphia, going from that city to Baltimore by railroad and crossing the Alleghany Mountains by stage. They traveled in the same manner to Greenspring. Mr. Smith was a very enterprising citizen and was engaged in the grain business for years. He assisted materially in building the first Methodist Episcopal church in Greenspring also the original sanitariums at Oak Ridge and the public school buildings. He was one of those who secured for Greenspring the old academy, and with ex-President Hayes served on its board of trustees. He was instrumental more than any other man in securing the Nickel Plate Railroad.

Mr. Holtz has held several township offices in the gift of the voters of his township and has been a member of the county commissioners. He is prominent as a Mason, having taken sixteen degrees. He was a leader in the Grange movement till 1874, and he is influentially identified with the Juniors. After his marriage he located, in 1872, on a farm of one hundred and seventy-five acres in Adams township. He early acquired a practical knowledge of surveying and has from time to time been employed in important work in that line in his vicinity. For nine years he has been a stockholder in the Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company of this county. For six years he was its president and he has filled the office of treasurer during two terms. Jacob S. Holtz, Mr. Holtz's brother, was in the Civil war, a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the company commanded by Captain Huntsberger of Akron, and died in Fort Strong Hospital July 1, 1864. Charles Holtz, together with his brother, returned to the old home place, where they continued to work and reside.

Mr. Holtz never worked as a hand, all his time and labor being spent in developing the interests of the home. At the age of thirty-five he removed to Adams township where he resided for eighteen years. He then constructed one of the finest homes in Pleasant township where he has eighty acres and an ideal home. Situated in a very beautiful grove surrounded by a continually flowing creek, the place is known as "Sugar Creek."

JUDD D. ASIRE.—At this point is directed attention to one of the native sons of the city of Fostoria, who has here gained a secure place as one of its representative business men and who is held in high esteem in the community that has ever been his home, his father having here taken up his abode more than half a century ago. Mr. Asire was born in Fostoria on the 30th of August, 1881, and is a son of David and Emma (Laver) Asire. The father came and established his home in Fostoria in 1858. Here he engaged in the undertaking business, with which he has been identified during the long intervening years and he is one of the oldest representatives of this line of enterprise in the entire state, besides which he is one of the honored and influential citizens of Fostoria, to whose development and upbuilding he has contributed his attitude and influence as a loyal and public spirited citizen. He is a Republican in politics and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Judd D. Asire is indebted to the public schools of his native town for his early educational discipline, which included a course in the high school, in which he was graduated in the class of 1901, after which he continued his studies in the Ohio State University in 1902-3. In 1904 he was graduated in the Biltmore Forest School, at Biltmore, North Carolina, from which excellent institution he received the degrees of B. F. and F. E. In 1902 he went to the Philippine Islands, where he was engaged in the United States army transport service. In the spring of 1905 Mr. Asire returned to Fostoria, where he has since been engaged in the undertaking business, in connection with which he has a fine establishment with equipment and facilities of the best modern type. The same is located at No. 120 West Tiffin street. He is also a stockholder in the Union National Bank, the Lincoln Life Insurance Company, and The Great Northern Life Insurance Company.

In politics Mr. Asire is a staunch adherent of the Republican party and he is at the present time a member of the board of education of his native city and he takes a zealous interest in all that touches the welfare of the community. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, has attained to the thirty-second degree in the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Masonic fraternity, besides which he is identified with the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows the Knights of the Maccabees, and the Phi Kappa Psi college fraternity, besides which he is an associate member of the Grand Army of the Republic, to which he is eligible by reason of his father's service in the Civil war.



On the 3rd of October, 1906 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Asire to Miss Glenn Crouse, of Westerville, Franklin county, this state. She was summoned to the life eternal on the 20th of February, 1910, and is survived by two children, Ruth Josephine, who was born August 20, 1907, and Margaret, who was born June, 22, 1909.

DANIEL D. KAUP.—He whose name initiates this review was a native son of Seneca county and is now incumbent of the responsible office of chief inspector of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for the Fostoria district, with residence and official headquarters in the city of Fostoria. He has been identified with railroad interests during the greater portion of his active career and the past evidence of the efficiency and fidelity of his service is that afforded by his incumbency of his present office.

Daniel D. Kaup was born at Tiffin, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 19th of July, 1859, and is a son of Benjamin F. and Lydia (Godshaw) Kaup, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, whence they came to Seneca county, Ohio, about the year 1849, establishing their home in Tiffin, where they passed the residue of their lives and where the father devoted the major portion of his time and attention to his trade, that of a millwright. The subject was reared to maturity in Tiffin and after availing himself of the advantages of the public schools he there continued his studies in Heidelberg College. After leaving school he learned the trade of millwright under the direction of his honored father, and he followed the same from 1876 to 1881, in which latter year he became yard master for the Burlington & Ohio Railroad Company at Tiffin, where he remained until 1886, when he was promoted to the office of chief clerk and cashier in the offices of the company at Tiffin. In 1887 he became ticket agent for the company in the city of Sandusky and a year later he resigned this office and took up his residence in Fostoria, where, on Christmas day of the year 1888, he assumed the position of night ticket agent for the same company. This incumbency he retained until the 20th of August of the following year, when he was promoted to the position of chief inspector for the joint rate and inspection bureau of the Fostoria district. He gave most effective service in this position and retained the same until March 16, 1908, when he assumed his present office of chief clerk of the inspection bureau for the Fostoria district.

In politics Mr. Kaup is found arrayed as a staunch supporter of the Republican party and for two years he represented the Fourth ward of Fostoria in the city council. At the present time he is director of the board of public safety of his home city. He owns an attractive residence at No. 129 West Crocker street. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is a member of the official board of the church of this denomination in Fostoria. He is identified with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, president of the local railroad clerks' union and is a member of the Fostoria Trade Council.

On the 26th of May, 1881, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Kaup to Miss Jennie Stone, of Tiffin, and they have one daughter, Eugenia, who is the wife of C. P. Bartch, who is chief rate inspector for the Joint Rate Inspection Bureau for the Fostoria district.

HENRY DRYFUSE.—Contracting and building is one of the essentially representative business enterprises whose scope of endeavor contributes materially to the development and beautifying of a place, and the concern conducted by Henry Dryfuse, in Bloomville, this county, is one of prominent order. Under the firm name of Dryfuse & Martin this business was established in 1903, and besides contracting and building the firm are also dealers in lumber and builders' supplies. From a modest nucleus the company has extended its operations throughout a wide territory and is rapidly gaining prestige as one of the important business enterprises of the county.

Henry Dryfuse was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 25th of July, 1866, and he is a son of Joseph and Mary (Stinel) Dryfuse, both of whom were natives of Germany, whence they emigrated to the United States about the year 1848. They first located in Pennsylvania and in 1866 they moved to the fine old Buckeye state, where they purchased a small farm in Seneca county. Joseph Dryfuse was often called on to preach in the absence of a regular, ordained minister, and he followed this calling for a number of years, being a stanch devotee of the United Brethren church. His preliminary educational advantages were those afforded in the common schools of his fatherland. However, he effectively supplemented his early discipline by extensive reading and association with the practical affairs of life. He never severed his connection with his church calling but continued to devote a portion of his time to this work even after locating on his farm in Bloom township. He was summoned to the life eternal in the year 1887, and his cherished and devoted wife long survived him, her death having occurred in 1903. They became the parents of seven children, of which number the subject of this sketch is the youngest. The names of the other children are here entered in order of birth: Joseph, Sarah, Susan, Solomon, Abraham and Samuel, all of whom are living except Solomon, whose death occurred in the year 1893.

The subject of this review was reared to maturity on the old homestead farm and he availed himself of the advantages afforded in the common schools of the county. When thirty years of age he learned the painter's trade, following the same with success for a number of years and in 1903, as already noted, he founded his present flourishing business, to whose interests he has since devoted the major portion of his time and attention. Associated with him in this line of enterprise is Mr. W. H. Kilcauley, who succeeded Mr. G. M. Martin in 1909, and the alliance has proved mutually agreeable and profitable to all concerned.

In politics Mr. Dryfuse accords an uncompromising allegiance to the principles and policies of the Democratic party,

and in a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics. He has served his town as land appraiser for one term and in this connection his services have been of the most satisfactory order. Both he and his wife are earnest members of the United Brethren church in their home city and they are popular factors in the social activities of the community.

On the 11th of November, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Dryfuse to Miss Essie L. Enders, who was reared and educated in Bloomville, this county, and who is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Enders. Mr. Enders was an influential and public spirited citizen of Seneca county and he was summoned to eternal rest in 1907, his wife having passed away in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Dryfuse have one daughter, Ruth L., who is now attending school in Bloomville.

AMOS M. BECK, who was born February 7, 1858, at Lancaster, Ohio, is the son of John M. and Maria B. (Kraft) Beck. Both of his parents were natives of Germany, the father born in Goettingen, February 3, 1808, and the mother in Anstoben, June 3, 1821. John M. Beck came to the United States with his parents when a lad six years of age, arriving on American shores, September 9, 1814. They were six months on the voyage, having been lost owing to storms and contrary winds. They came near to the starvation point, being so weak from hunger when the ship finally arrived in port that they had to be carried to land. The mother arrived June 6, 1845, after a three month's voyage. The paternal grandparents were John G. and Sabina B. (Bender) Beck, and soon after coming to the land of the stars and strips, they located in Lancaster, Fairfield county, Ohio. The maternal grandparents, Jacob and Anna (Blaser) Kraft, of Anstoben and Overberbach, Germany, remained in their native land throughout their whole lives.

The mother of him whose name initiates this sketch was born in Anstoben, Germany, June 3, 1821, and is now in her ninetieth year. She was reared in her native land obtained a good education there and had begun upon employment as a wage earner. When she decided to emigrate it was necessary under local laws for her to secure from the mayor of the town where she had been living a document called a "permit of recommendation," to be deposited with whomever she might find employment. This record, inscribed in a little book, set forth her age, height, weight, complexion, color of hair and eyes, and further personal description, as a means of identification. She has retained it through all the years since, and it is not the least interesting of the mementoes of another land in another time. She was a spinner by vocation.

The father, John M. Beck, lived with his parents, working on a farm and attending school until he married, that happy event occurring September 21, 1838. Then he and his bride went to housekeeping in Lancaster, Ohio. The father was a rope maker by trade and was employed there as such. Mrs. Beck bore her husband seven children, all of whom were living when this work



was in preparation, namely: Mary A., born in 1845; Jacob F., 1849; Eliza J., 1851; Melancthon, 1854; Amos M., in 1858; H. Franklin, 1860; and Daniel, 1862. The father died March 2, 1868, but his widow still survives and makes her home in Lancaster, Ohio.

Amos M. Beck remained as a member of his father's household until he was nineteen years old. He took to shoemaking, but soon went to Findlay, Ohio, where his cousin, George W. Myers, was agent for the Lake Erie & Louisville Railroad Company and owner of a large elevator, and the subject himself entered the service of his cousin. He remained there four years, then went to Delphos, Ohio, and worked four months on the Toledo, Delphos and Burlington Railroad. From Delphos he went to Holgate, Ohio, where he was taken down with fever. When he recovered he was sent to Warren, Indiana, where he was a station agent and telegrapher for a year. Then he was offered and accepted a better position with the Lake Erie & Western road at Fostoria, Ohio. After residing at Fostoria about four months, he went to Lima, Ohio, in the employ of the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad company. Returning to Fostoria he resumed his old position, which he retained until the year 1883. In the year last mentioned he entered the employ of the Nickel Plate line in the same town.

On May 21, 1885, Mr. Beck married Miss Della Flavin, born at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, December 11, 1867, a daughter of Dr. William and Martha (Conaghan) Flavin. Her father was born in 1842 and died September 16, 1896. The scene of the mother's birth was Upper Sandusky, Ohio, and the date September 16, 1846. Dr. Flavin, a native of Nova Scotia, was in medical practice and in the drug trade at Bettsville, Ohio, and about 1885 removed to Paulding, Ohio, where he was active in the same lines. Some time previous to that date, Dr. and Mrs. Flavin separated, admittedly because of religious differences, he being Protestant, she Catholic. The mother retained their only child, then about seven years old, and never married again, dying of typhoid fever. September 16, 1887, at Greenspring, Ohio, Dr. Flavin married Miss Bowers, of Tyro, Ohio, south of Tiffin, and they have a son, Charles Flavin, who is employed in the electric works at Columbus, Ohio. The second Mrs. Flavin died, and Dr. Flavin married her cousin, Emma Bowers, and three children have been born to them, namely: Edward B.; Grace, who is Mrs. Harvey Hirn, of Ottawa, Ohio; and Mrs. Maud Miller of Texas. Mr. Hirn is a hotel keeper and Mr. Miller is in the machine business.

Mr. and Mrs. Beck have two sons. Charles A., born February 27, 1887, was educated in the railroad business by his father while at Greenspring Junction; Earl M., born March 8, 1889, was educated at Greenspring and at Heidelberg College at Tiffin, and is his father's assistant in the latter's railroad station work at Greenspring Junction. Mr. Beck is a Lutheran and the other members of his family are Methodists, but they have had no differences because of their slight variance as to church government. They were all interested in Sunday school work at times. Mr. Beck is independent in politics. He is a Mason and a member of

the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias. He has passed all the chairs in all three of these orders. He is faithful in attending lodge, never missing a meeting. His sons are Masons and Knights of Pythias also, Charles A. being chancellor commander of the Knights of Pythias. He resides in Chicago now, being assistant ticket agent of the Nickel Plate railroad. This young man married Miss Ida L. Wolfe, July 21, 1910, she having been born October 1, 1890, the daughter of E. B. Wolfe, who is represented in this work by a biographical sketch.

All of the married life of the subject has been spent at Greenspring. His wife, whose male relatives and ancestors have most of them been farmers and stock raisers, comes of a family which has a place in the pioneer history of this part of Ohio. It was represented in the state when the Indians were still here and at Upper Sandusky, where she passed her childhood, she often saw Indians who had a liking for the place because they had planted many trees there. She remembers that Indians often came to the house of her grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Beck and their son Earl have traveled considerably. On one occasion they went by way of Chicago to Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego, returning via El Paso, San Antonio, New Orleans and Cincinnati. They visited many other interesting places including old Mexico, where they witnessed the Spanish national sport, a bull fight. Mr. and Mrs. Beck were absent from home about two months and the letters and post cards they sent back were gladly received by their numerous friends. They also visited many of the old missions in California, Texas and Mexico, including those of the Alamo, Espada, and San Jose. It will be remembered that at the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, Colonel Travis, Lieutenant Colonel Bowie, Davey Crockett and others, lost their lives in battle with Mexicans, Indians and Spaniards. Some of the missions visited by Mr. and Mrs. Beck were over four hundred years old.

NATHAN R. FRANCE.—Earnest toil and concentrated endeavor find their just reward in an unvarnished success, which is the more worthy of the name in that it is due not to accident but is the direct result of individual effort. He whose name introduces this paragraph has been the architect of his own fortunes and he is a man of keen business ability and unquestioned honesty and integrity. Nathan R. France is well known in his native state of Ohio and none has been more zealous in an unobtrusive way in furthering the material and civic welfare of his home community and of the state at large. He was born in Richland county, Ohio, on the 16th of April, 1862, and is a son of Enoch and Rachel (Ross) France, the former of whom was a native of England and the latter of whom was born in Richland county, this state. The father devoted the major portion of his life to the stone business, and he was summoned to eternal rest in 1906. His wife still lives at Mansfield, Ohio.

Nathan R. France received his preliminary educational training in the common schools of his native county and later supplemented the same by a course of study in Perrysville Academy,

which he attended for a period of years and finished his education with a business course at Pittsburg. In 1885, when twenty-three years of age, he moved to Bloomville, Seneca county, and here he has continuously maintained his home during the long intervening years. He is the youngest of the five children of Enoch and Rachel France. Concerning the other children, the two daughters, Mary and Myra, are deceased; Ira, who was long associated with his brothers in the stone business, died in 1910, at the age of fifty-three years; and William J., is actively identified with his brother, Nathan R., in the operation of their vast quarries located in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. This enterprise was begun on a modest scale in 1885, and during the past twenty-five years has grown to most remarkable proportions. The France Company own a tract of six hundred acres of fine quarry land in Bloom township, on which one of their quarries is located, and in various sections of Ohio, Michigan and Indiana they are the owners and operators of twenty-four other quarries, besides which they run a number of slag plants. The crushed stone manufactured by this enterprising concern is used for turnpiking and also for ballast in the construction of railroads, in which connection the company control a large business. The offices of the France Company were originally located in Bloomville, but with increased scope of business the headquarters were removed to Toledo, Ohio, where finely equipped offices are maintained and where a large number of employes are constantly engaged. The sterling integrity and highly reliable character of the brothers constitute one of the most valuable assets of the company, which is constantly extending its trade territory and which is rapidly becoming known throughout the union. Nathan R. France still maintains his home in Bloomville.

In politics Mr. France is an uncompromising supporter of the Republican party and he has been most liberal in his contributions to the development and progress of his home county. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with Eden Lodge, No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, and with De Molay Commandery, Knights Templars, at Tiffin. Both he and his wife are members of the Order of the Eastern Star. They also hold membership in the Reformed church.

In June, 1888, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. France to Miss Luella Blackwell, who is a native of Ohio and who is a daughter of George and Julia (Heilman) Blackwell, both of whom are now of Tiffin. Mr. and Mrs. France have two children, George A., who was born on the 24th of November, 1890; and Luella, whose birth occurred on the 5th of November, 1897.

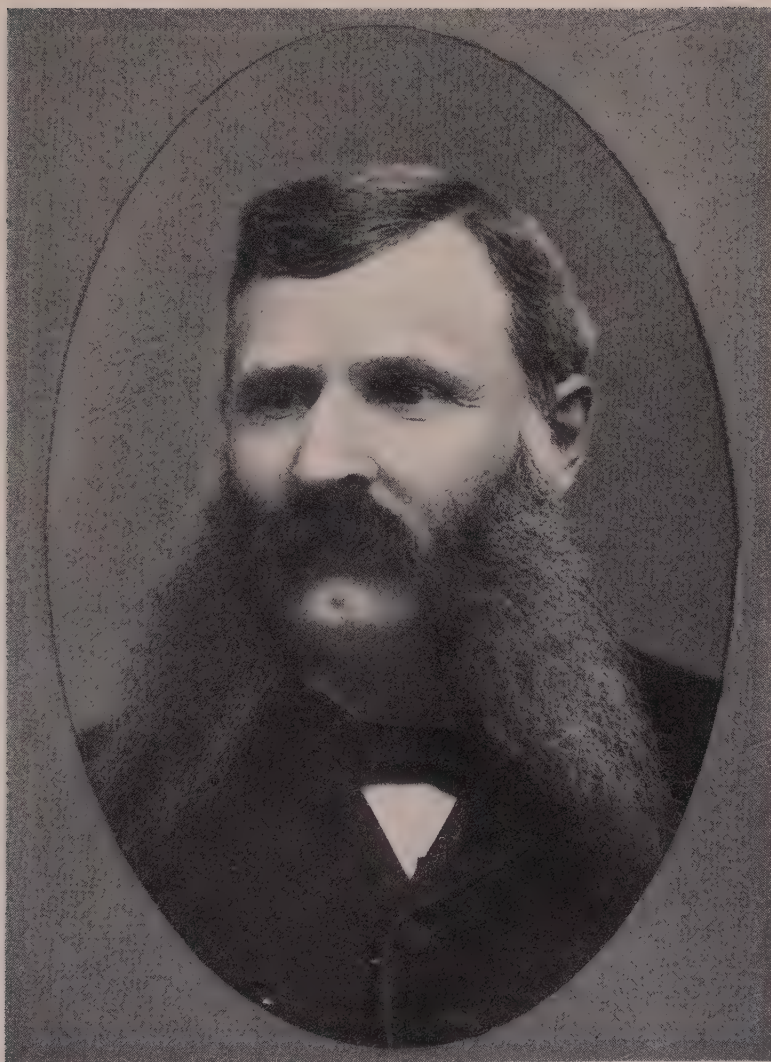
OSCAR H. BERLEKAMP was born June 26, 1883, a son of H. B. and Caroline (Cook) Berlekamp. A biographical sketch of his father is given in these pages and should be referred to in connection with this. The parents of our subject were natives of Prussia. He lived with them till 1904, when he was about twenty-one years old. On November 16th that year he married Miss Sallie Light Mayer, at Fremont, Ohio. She was born June 2.







*Helen M. Heath.*



E E Heath





1885, a daughter of Israel H. and Sallie (Light) Mayer, natives of Thompson township. Her grandfather Mayer was born in Pennsylvania of an old and honored family there, and her grandmother, Catharine (Shakley) Mayer, was a native of France. They were among the early settlers of Thompson township, taking up land and improving it into a fine farm. The churches and schools of their vicinity had in them friends firm, helpful and steadfast, who did all possible for their development and advancement. They were communicants of the Reformed church. Sallie Light Mayer was born February 3, 1869. Israel Mayer was born in 1860.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Mayer lived with grandfather Loose. They were members of the Reformed church and he was a Democrat. In the affairs of his township and of the county he was influential, as all good citizens should be. She died June 4, 1885, and he married Jennie Berkey and went to Elkhart, Indiana, to be a railroad engineer, leaving his daughter, Mrs. Berlekamp, with her grandparents, J. B. and Anna Light, who sent her to the Old Fort High School where she received her graduating diploma in 1899, and cared for her till she married. Before her marriage, however, she entered upon a successful career as a teacher, which continued five years, two years after she became Mrs. Berlekamp. It should be noted that she received a second diploma, of which she is justly proud. She will long be remembered as one of Pleasant township's most efficient educators. She has two brothers, Earl W. and Chester E. Mayer, and two sisters, Bessie I. and Edith B. Mayer, all of whom live at Elkhart, Indiana, with their father.

After his marriage, Mr. Berlekamp took up a residence on a farm owned by himself and two brothers, later selling his interest and buying his present farm, one of the best of its class in Pleasant township, on which he has lived since 1905 and which he has improved by ditching and tiling, by rebuilding barns and fences, by remodeling his house and in other ways known to thrifty farmers. Mr. and Mrs. Berlekamp are active and helpful members of the Reformed church. He is a Republican of local standing and influence. His wife has borne him two children: Joseph B., born June 21, 1906, died in infancy; Windle K., was born May 26, 1909.

HELEN M. HEATH.—Americans are beginning to realize the moral as well as the historical significance of genealogical foundations. A nation which relies upon the record of its homes for its national character cannot afford to ignore the value of genealogical investigation as one of the truest sources of patriotism. The love of home inspires the love of country. There is a wholesome influence in genealogical research which cannot be over estimated. Moreover, there is a deep human interest in it.

Helen M. (Shaw) Heath is the daughter and the widow of American citizens who contributed in generous measure to the civic and material development of the communities which represented their homes during their long and useful lives. She was born in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 31st of August, 1846, and is a daughter of Captain Joseph and Rachel Ogden (Price) Shaw, both of

whom are now deceased. Captain Shaw was a native of the old Empire state of the Union, his birth having occurred in Scipio township, Cayuga county, New York, on the 20th of March, 1811. He was a son of Robert Shaw, born in New York in 1785, a farmer by occupation. After attaining to his legal majority, Robert Shaw wedded Miss Sarah Keller and in 1836 they came to Seneca county, Ohio, locating in Scipio township, on several hundred acres of land eligibly situated on Morrison creek. They became the parents of ten children, namely: Mary, Eliza, Joseph, Matilda, Sallie, Silas, George, Roxa, Jerome and Alfred, all of whom are deceased. Robert Shaw was summoned to the life eternal August 14, 1864, and his cherished and devoted wife passed away in 1868. Captain Shaw was reared and educated in his native county and as a young man he became captain of an Erie canal boat, continuing to be identified with that line of enterprise for a period of seven years. In 1841 he removed to Scipio township, Seneca county, and engaged in agricultural pursuits, owning a fine farm two and a half miles west of Republic. Just prior to his advent in Ohio he married Rachel Ogden Price, of Genoa, New York. To this union were born three children, namely: Jane E., who became the wife of Captain George Tubbs; Helen M., the immediate subject of this review; and Annie E., who is the wife of G. R. Hemingway, traveling salesman for the Hess & Clark Company, with headquarters at Ashland, Ohio.

In 1850 Captain Shaw, with his family, returned to New York and for twenty years thereafter he was actively engaged as hotel proprietor at various points in New York. He returned to his farm near Republic in 1870, but the closing years of his life were passed at Republic, where he died August 20, 1877. His widow long survived him, her death occurring on March 30, 1900, at Ashland. Captain Shaw was a man of fine mentality and broad human sympathy and he is held in reverent memory by all who knew him.

Jane E. Shaw, the eldest daughter, was born November 27, 1843, in Scipio township, Seneca county, Ohio, and on the 26th of May, 1868, at Candor, New York, she was united in marriage to Captain George Tubbs, a native of Elmira, New York, where his birth occurred on the 19th of May, 1833. At the time of the inception of the Civil war he gave most effective aid in organizing the One Hundred and Forty-first Regiment of New York Infantry, in which he served as second lieutenant of Company I. Later he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant and at the battle of Resaca he was wounded by a minie ball, which struck him in the right foot. After his recovery he was given charge of an invalid corps for a short time but later was detailed as topographical engineer on the staff of General Knipe, commanding a brigade of the First Division of the Twentieth Army Corps. Subsequently, on the march from Savannah through the Carolinas, he was appointed topographical engineer on the staff of General Jefferson C. Davis, of Indiana, who commanded the Fourteenth Army Corps. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea and on his staff in the Grand Review in the city of Washington, at the close of the war.



Captain Tubbs returned to his home in the Empire state, when peace had again been established, and there he was married and at Candor, Tioga county, that state, conducted an iron foundry for four years. In 1872 he emigrated to Ohio and established his home at Republic. He ever retained a deep interest in his old comrades in arms and signified the same by membership in Robinson Post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Republic. He served as commander of Robinson Post and in his civic life he was mayor of Republic and was serving his second term as justice of the peace at the time of his death, on the 2nd of March, 1899. His wife survives him and she has long been an active factor in Relief Corps work, having filled the position of president of Robinson Women's Relief Corps for no less than five terms. She is also a member of the Reading Circle and the Daughters of Rebekah. Captain and Mrs. Tubbs became the parents of three children, Joseph K., who was born at Candor, New York, on the 27th of September, 1870, married Hattie L. Crapsey, of Bradner, Ohio, May 5, 1898, and they maintain their home at Velasco, Texas; Robert M., who was born at Republic, Ohio, on the 22nd of June, 1873, is a resident of Ashland, Ohio, where was solemnized his marriage to Mary E. Brinton, of that city, the date of the ceremony being June 23, 1906 and they have two children: Florence E., born June 13, 1907; Robert Edward, born January 22, 1909; and Charles E., born March 30, 1875, died August 1, 1907.

Helen M. (Shaw) Heath was a child of but four years at the time of her parents' removal to New York, in which state she was reared and educated. On the 1st of December, 1869, at Candor, New York, was celebrated her marriage to Edward E. Heath, who died June 18, 1905. Mr. Heath was born in Tompkins county, New York, February 12, 1843, and was a son of James Heath, who removed with his family to Hartford, New York, in 1849, to the public schools of which place Mr. Heath was indebted for his educational training. When seventeen years of age he entered upon an apprenticeship at the tinner's trade, at Homer, New York, and he was thus engaged until the 21st of August, 1862, when he manifested his intrinsic loyalty to the cause of the Union by enlisting as a private in Company H, One Hundred and Fifty-seventh New York Infantry, at Hamilton, where he was mustered into service. His term of enlistment was for three years. He participated in many engagements marking the progress of the war, in the first of which, at Chancellorsville, he was severely wounded by a minnie ball, which passed through his left thigh and lodged against the bone of his right leg. He was in the field hospital for three days, after which he was sent to a hospital in Washington, where he remained for seventeen days, during which time the ball was extracted. After his recovery he was sent to David's Island and on the 1st of September, 1863, he was transferred to Fort Schuyler. Later he was at Bedloe's Island and at Alexandria, Virginia, where he was put on detached service, being thus engaged until his discharge, at the close of his term of three years. He had been a most faithful soldier and was mustered out

of service on the 14th of July, 1865, as first sergeant, having been promoted to the rank of corporal before leaving New York.

At the close of the war Mr. Heath took up his abode at Homer, New York, where he followed his trade for two years. He then removed to Candor, Tioga county, where he was engaged in the hardware business until 1874, which year marked his advent in Republic, Ohio. This change was made on account of Mrs. Heath's impaired health. Being much benefited by the change, permanent location was made in Seneca county and Mr. Heath turned his attention to the buying and selling of walnut timber. Subsequently he engaged in the tinware and hardware business at Republic and prior to his death he was connected with the oil industry at Rollersville, Ohio, for a number of years. In politics, Mr. Heath was ever aligned as a stalwart supporter of the principles and policies of the Republican party and he held membership in Robinson Post, Grand Army of the Republic, in which he gave most efficient service as commander. Mr. Heath was an influential factor in public affairs, showing a deep and intelligent interest in all enterprises tending to advance the general welfare. He was long a member of the town council of Republic and served on the fire and water committee. For more than a score of years he was correspondent for the Tiffin Tribune and he had various financial and real estate interests of broad scope and importance. He was a valued and appreciative member of Republic Lodge, No. 40, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and at the time of his death, June 18, 1905, his funeral was in charge of this order. Many celebrated members from New York and various points in Ohio attended the services and his remains were interred in Fairwell Retreat Cemetery, at Republic. He was a man of quick perception and extraordinary executive ability, was modest and unassuming, a home lover who sought and found his chief pleasure by his own fire-side in the companionship of his family and devoted friends.

Mrs. Heath is a woman of most gracious personality and broad mental ken. She has traveled extensively throughout the United States, visiting its many large cities and celebrated health resorts. She has considerable literary talent and devotes much of her time to writing, being a correspondent for and a contributor to several prominent periodicals. Though she is now past sixty years of age she scarcely looks forty, her clear vision and splendid vigor being wonderfully preserved. Her sister, Mrs. Tubbs, resides with her, as already stated, and she accompanies Mrs. Heath on her extensive travels. She is an ardent worker in the Women's Relief Corps, in which she has served as treasurer, and is past noble grand in the Daughters of Rebekah. She is also a member of the Eastern Star and secretary of the Daughters of America. She has taken a prominent part in the work of this latter organization and has been delegate to the state meetings of the order on various occasions. Her religious faith is in harmony with the tenets of the Presbyterian church, to whose charities and benevolences she has ever been a liberal contributor.

Anna E., youngest daughter of Joseph and Rachel O. Shaw, was born at Sycamore, Wyandot county, Ohio, February 22, 1849.

She was united in marriage to George R. Hemingway, at Candor, New York, on the 30th of December, 1868. In 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Hemingway removed to Republic, Ohio, and to them were born three children: Rachel Blanche, Ella Maud and Amy Winona. Rachel Blanche was born at Republic, Ohio, July 26, 1871, and she is now the wife of Frank L. Heath, of Candor, New York, the date of her marriage being June 14, 1899. Ella Maud was likewise a native of Republic, the date of her birth being May 7, 1873. She was summoned to eternal rest on the 11th of September, 1873, at which time she was an infant of but four months of age. Amy Winona, born at Republic, on the 14th of June, 1877, married Emory E. Brown, of Ashland, on the 12th of September, 1900. They reside at Ashland and have one son, Joseph H. whose birth occurred April 23, 1908.

ROLAND H. CRUM, of Pleasant township, post office Tiffin, one of the leaders in his community, was born December 20, 1880, a son of William T. and Mary E. (Keller) Crum. The father was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1853, and the mother's nativity was in the Buckeye state, her natal day being December 18, 1854. The mother is a native of this township and has the unusual experience of residing upon the very farm which was the scene of her birth. William T. Crum came to Ohio when a little lad of four years with his parents, John Frederick and Susan S. (Reeme) Crum, the farewell to the old home near Harrisburg, in the Keystone state, being made in the year 1857. They located on a good farm in Hopewell township, Seneca county, which comprised one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, and engaged in general farming. The grandfather was a quiet, upright, dependable man, with a quick hand for a friend or for those in trouble, helpful in the community, a good all-round citizen, such as exerts an influence for progress and development. He was a German by descent, his parents, David and Mrs. (Stine) Crum, having been born in the fatherland and later crossed to America, where they located in Pennsylvania. John Frederick Crum survived until January 5, 1899, his wife having preceded him to the great beyond on July 24, 1887. The name of the latter's father was Daniel Reeme, and he was a prominent man in his day and generation.

Mr. Crum's mother's family, the Kellers, were Maryland people, who located in Pleasant township about the year 1852. The father's principal business was farming, but later he built two grist mills and managed them until he died. He was widely known as "Joel Keller, the miller," and his wife's maiden name had been Martha Kemp. Her grandfather, Peter Kemp, was the founder of the family in America, he having selected the state of Maryland as an abiding place.

Roland H. Crum, whose name initiates this sketch, was educated in the public schools, finishing at the Tiffin High School and his early years were employed in assisting his father, he remaining under the home roof until 1904. He was married on May 15 of that year to Elvira T. Abbott, born May 16, 1880, a daughter of A. L.



and Calena (Titus) Abbott. Mr. and Mrs. Crum have one child, named Roland Abbott Crum, who first saw the light of day August 11, 1905. After his marriage Mr. Crum settled on the old A. L. Abbott farm of two hundred and twenty-one acres and took up general farming, in which he has been successful. He is a Republican and influential in the township and county counsels of his party. He is a member of the Methodist Protestant church of Tiffin and Mrs. Crum is a communicant of the Presbyterian church of that city. He supplemented his schooling by a commercial course at Heidelberg. The wife, too, was educated in the Old Fort High School and at Heidelberg. She is justly proud of the fact that some of her relatives saw a soldier's service in the Civil war, notably Lieutenant (afterwards captain) Moses Abbott and Captain Lyman Abbott, and she is also eligible to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution.

HERBERT A. GOODING was born in Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, January 30, 1873, a son of Josiah and Mary A. (Petticord) Gooding. He was reared on his father's farm, instructed in all that makes for successful cultivation of the soil, and educated in public schools near his home. Until he married, he made his home with his parents, helping his father in his farming operations. But he was at times otherwise employed. He early fitted himself for a teacher's work. In 1893 he visited the Columbian Exposition, Chicago's great world's fair, where he made a critical study of many interesting things, broadening his view by observation and comparison of many objects of educational quality from all parts of the earth. December 2, that year, he married Miss Hetty A. Fisher. After successfully taking a five year examination he devoted himself to teaching, and was for fourteen years in charge of leading schools in the country round about, making a record as an educator of which any man might be proud. Had he continued teaching he might have risen to still more prominence, but in the meantime, seven years ago, he had bought the old Petticord farm of ninety acres and it demanded his attention. He moved into the old Petticord house, one of the landmarks of the township, built as long ago as 1840. He has partially rebuilt it, and it affords him comfortable domicile and adorns one of the finest farms in his neighborhood. Mrs. Gooding was born May 16, 1874, and lived with her grandfather, J. Rule, until her marriage. Educated in district schools and having a thirst to gain and impart knowledge, she was so thoroughly animated with the educational spirit of the day that for ten years she gave herself to school teaching, a vocation in which she won the praise of many older educators. It is worthy of note as indicating the current of the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Gooding at the time of their courtship and in the time leading to it that he was her last teacher before she left school to enter upon her labors in the world. She has borne her husband four children: Ruby F., born October 20, 1895; Rachel M., October 17, 1900; Ward E., September 12, 1906; and Norman D., August 5, 1910. They are all members of their parents' household. Mrs. Gooding is a daughter of Lewis F. and Sarah (Rule)

Fisher. They were born in Adams township, her father November 18, 1850, and her mother September 8, 1845. Her father is living there now, devoting himself to his trade, that of a carpenter. His father was Joseph Fisher, a native of Maryland, who married Barbara Smith, also born in that state, but of German extraction.

Josiah Gooding, father of Herbert A. Gooding, was a son of Joseph and Amelia (Cooper) Gooding. Joseph Gooding was born at Playford near Ipswich, England, in 1803. His wife was born in the state of New York. They came to Seneca county in 1830. Their son Josiah was born in Adams township in 1835, was educated in public schools and at the academy at Republic, taught school from 1850 to 1870, and was married April 21, 1859. He enlisted but before actual service the war was over. He is now living in Adams township. His wife bore him six children. The first in order of birth was Evira; the others were Harry M.; Willie, deceased; Emma J., George E. and Herbert A. The latter is a Republican in his political alliances and as such was repeatedly elected justice of the peace, serving continuously in the office eleven years. He has in his possession several relics of past generations which he justly prizes very highly. Among them is a set of andirons, a shovel and a pair of tongs brought from England by his grandfather Cooper and long used by him. Another is a teapot probably about a hundred years old once used by his grandmother, tea from which he often drank with her when he was young. Another is a beautiful handpainted plate, on which is delicately engraved the word "Guanasay." Still another is a pitcher of ancient pattern which was long in possession of the Petticord family.

JAENICE P. HARRINGTON.—Mrs. Harrington occupies a position of prominence in connection with educational affairs in Seneca county by reason of the fact that she is proprietor and manager of the Fostoria Business College, whose facilities and methods of instruction are of the best modern standard so that the institution affords splendid advantages to its numerous students. Mrs. Harrington is a native of Seneca county and is a daughter of Dr. James M. Parker, who was one of the honored and successful surgeons of this county for many years. Both he and his wife, whose maiden name was Hettie Gilmer, continued to reside in Ohio until his death. Mrs. Harrington was afforded the advantages of the public schools of the city of Findlay, Ohio, where she was graduated in the high school as a member of the class of 1902. Thereafter she completed a three years' course in the University of Ohio and in the spring of 1908 she came to Fostoria and assumed the position of manager of the Fostoria Business College, of which she became proprietor on April 4, 1909. The excellent institution, which is conducted under the able administration of Mrs. Harrington, offers complete courses in stenography, typewriting, bookkeeping and business forms and is well equipped for fitting its students for all kinds of office positions. In connection with the college is maintained a business exchange, through which employers are provided with capable office assistants. The college

is located in the Rosendale Building, at the corner of Main and North streets, and is constantly expanding in its usefulness and scope of operations.

Mrs. Harrington is known as a careful business woman and capable executive and occupies a somewhat unique position as administrative head of her college. She holds membership in the Presbyterian church.

ISAAC P. RULE.—This prominent Republican and citizen of Adams township was born October 31, 1865, a son of Byron and Matilda (Dodge) Rule. His grandfather, Daniel Rule, who was born October 28, 1801 came to Scipio township the year following the removal of his father to this section and he settled on eighty acres of land. He had formerly resided in Trumbull county and later he settled on one hundred and seventy-three acres in Seneca county.

Isaac P. Rule was educated at Greenspring and at Oberlin, he gained a practical knowledge of farming and was a member of his parents' home circle until he married and set up an independent roof-tree. He married Miss Jennie Litler, and she bore him a son whom they named Byron L. He died in April, 1900 and the wife and mother died the year following. Mr. Rule's present wife, before her marriage, was Miss Elizabeth Lull. She was educated in New Hampshire and came to Seneca county about the year 1900. Mrs. Rule's parents died when she was but three years old and she was adopted by a great-uncle, Robert B. Lull, who resided in Clermont, New Hampshire. She there attended the district schools until her marriage, which occurred January 4, 1905, at Detroit, Michigan. She came then to the farm in Seneca county. Isaac P. Rule's grandfather, Daniel Rule, established the present Rule homestead on land obtained during Andrew Jackson's administration.

Mr. Rule is a member of the Masonic Commandery at Fremont and also belongs to the Order of the Eastern Star and Mrs. Rule is worthy matron of the organization at Greenspring of the last named order. She is a member of the Universalist church. Mr. Rule has traveled quite extensively throughout the United States. He is a man of fine abilities and has varied the monotony of farming with ventures in the way of speculation. His influence in public affairs of his township and county is recognized and his public spirit, no less than his good judgment have brought him into the counsels of those who plan and promote innovations for the general good.

J. SCHUYLER HOSSLER.—A man of prominence and influence in public affairs in the thriving village of Bloomville, Seneca county, is J. Schuyler Hossler, a member of the firm of Hossler & Kimmel, editors and proprietors of the *Bloomville Gazette*. At this juncture it is interesting to note the evolution of the *Gazette*. The first paper edited in Bloomville appeared in 1875 and was called the *Enterprise*. It was owned by Rev. Robert Lockhart, J. N. Lee and D. W. Fisher, the latter of whom changed the name to the



*Bloomville Banner.* Adam Brothers purchased the paper in 1877 and they were succeeded by William Kaga, who sold it to Mr. Fisher, one of the first founders. Mr. Fisher eventually disposed of it to Mr. Hamaker, and during his ownership it was discontinued for a period of eight months. O. M. Holcomb next took it in charge and he changed the title to that of the *Independent & Seneca County Record*. For a time it was in the hands of M. Richardson and in 1894 he disposed of it to I. C. Gray, who edited it successfully until 1905. In 1900 Mr. Hossler established the *Gazette* and five years later the *Independent* was consolidated with the *Gazette* under the name of the latter. In 1909 I. C. Gray withdrew from the firm and was succeeded by E. D. Kimmel, who is now associated with J. Schuyler Hossler under the firm name of Hossler & Kimmel, as already noted. In 1910 this firm founded another paper, the *Republic Reporter*. Both papers are now well established on a sound, paying basis and they have a circulation of about fifteen hundred. In connection with the work on the papers is conducted a flourishing jobbing department.

J. Schuyler Hossler was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 13th of May, 1873, and he is a son of Samuel B. and Sarah J. (Lomiller) Hossler, the former of whom was born in Bloom township on the 12th of April, 1842, and the latter of whom was born on February 16, 1847. Samuel B. Hossler was reared and educated in his native township and he supplemented his earlier educational training by an effective course of study in the Seneca County Academy. That he put his scholastic attainments to good use is shown by the fact that he was successfully engaged in teaching for seven terms. Subsequently he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits in conjunction with work of a clerical nature. He has served as executor of various estates and it is stated on good authority that he has settled more estates than any other man in the township. He was at one time nominated on the Republican ticket for county recorder and infirmary director, but owing to political exigencies he was defeated by a small majority. He has filled with efficiency the offices of land appraiser and township trustee and was for many years a member of the school board. On the 2nd of May, 1864, he showed his patriotism and loyalty to the cause of the union by enlisting as a member of Company G, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio National Guard, his command being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He served out his term and was mustered out of service in September, 1864. His brother, Henry F., was likewise a gallant soldier in the Union army. He served as a private in Company B, One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was a first lieutenant, Ohio National Guard. He was summoned to eternal rest on the 5th of November, 1872. Samuel B. Hossler has important interests in several farms in and adjacent to Bloom township and for the past nineteen years he has maintained his home in Bloomville, where he has extensive real estate holdings. It is interesting to note here that Mr. Hossler has in his possession a twenty-five cent piece which was found in the pocket of President McKinley at the time of his assassination in Buffalo, New York. This memento

was given him by his cousin, H. W. Hossler, who was one of the fellow directors with President McKinley in the Central Savings Bank of Canton, Ohio, and who was one of the appraisers of the McKinley estate.

Samuel Hossler is a son of Jacob and Anna (Funk) Hossler, the former of whom was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, on the 31st of January, 1806, and the latter of whom was a native of Stark county, Ohio, where her birth occurred on the 19th of June, 1814. The old Hossler homestead in Pennsylvania is part of the site on which was fought the memorable battle of Gettysburg. Jacob came with his parents to Ohio in 1821 and the family located in Stark county. In 1834 he came to Seneca county and established his home in Bloom township, where he developed a productive farm. His marriage to Miss Anna Funk was solemnized on the 23rd of September, 1830, and of their sixteen children eleven attained to years of maturity. In 1866 Mr. Hossler removed to Bloomville, where he continued to reside until his death and he was long one of the prominent and influential citizens of Seneca county. For nearly a quarter of a century he served as justice of the peace and he was the first incumbent of the office of mayor of Bloomville. He served four years as postmaster, under the administration of President Grant, and he was called upon to serve in other offices of public trust. He was summoned to the life eternal on the 5th of March, 1896, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away on the 16th of February, 1891. Both lived to a ripe old age, celebrating their golden wedding in 1880 and the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage in 1890. At the time of his demise Jacob Hossler was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of valuable farm land and he contributed materially to the development of the agricultural industry of Seneca county. Both he and his wife were held in high regard by their fellow citizens and the circle of their friends was coincident with that of their acquaintances. Jacob Hossler was a son of Frederick Hossler, who was born in Pennsylvania on the 8th of September, 1783, and who was a son of John G. Hossler, a representative of one of the pioneer families of the old Keystone state, where he was born in 1758. John G. Hossler was a son of Michael J. Hossler, who was born in Alsace, France, now a German province, and who emigrated to America and established his home in Philadelphia county, Pennsylvania, in 1754. John G. Hossler married Elizabeth Ramer, who was born in York county, Pennsylvania, on the 1st of December, 1762. Frederick Hossler, grandfather of him whose name initiates this article, was born in York county, Pennsylvania, on the 8th of December, 1783, as already noted, and he married Magdelene Koltriter, who was born October 31, 1782. His death occurred on the 30th of December, 1843, and his wife, who long survived him, passed away on the 3rd of August, 1867.

J. Schuyler Hossler, the immediate subject of this review, received his early educational discipline in his native township and when nineteen years of age was matriculated in Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, in the literary department of which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1897, with the degree of Bachelor of

Science. From 1897 to 1900 he was engaged as editor of the *Toledo Herald* and in the latter year he severed his connection with this paper and became editor and proprietor of the *Bloomville Gazette*. Concerning his identification with this enterprising paper a brief history has already been given. In politics Mr. Hossler accords an unwavering allegiance to the Republican party and the high place which he holds in popular confidence and esteem is readily indicated by his election as mayor of Bloomville in 1910. He is giving a most admirable administration of the municipal affairs of his home town and is doing much to further the development and progress of the same. In the time honored Masonic fraternity he holds membership in Eden Lodge, No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, and he is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. Both he and his wife are earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church and they are prominent factors in the social activities of the community.

On the 29th of May, 1898, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hossler to Miss Dollie Kimmel, who was born in Attica, Ohio, and who is a daughter of Henry H. and Martha A. (Swartz) Kimmel, representative citizens of Bloomville. Mr. and Mrs. Hossler have three children, namely: Alice L., Grace H. and Glenna E.

THE DETTERMAN FAMILY in Seneca county, Ohio, dates back to 1833, when John H. Detterman and his betrothed wife, Catharine Stigermire, natives of Copeland, Prussia, came to the United States, Mr. Detterman and his brother fleeing from service in the German army, as many another German has done before and since. Landing in New York, they started west via the Hudson river and the Erie canal. They came by boat on Lake Erie to Sandusky, Ohio, and from there to Scipio City they walked, arriving without means. So scarce was money in those days that labor commanded but a small price. Mr. Detterman found employment at twenty-five cents a day, his intended wife at twenty-five cents a week. Miss Stigermire was employed by a Mrs. Strow in Seneca county. Mr. Detterman went a little further west, but returned occasionally to see his sweetheart. He went to the Stows neighborhood in 1834, fully intending to return to his employer, as indeed he had promised to do, but the persuasions of Miss Stigermire and of Mr. and Mrs. Strow induced him to change his mind, and he, too, entered the employ of the Strows, for whom he and Miss Stigermire both worked till the spring of 1835, when they married and began housekeeping in a log cabin. Mr. Detterman worked at clearing land, earning five hundred dollars, enough then to enable him to buy eighty acres of land. He soon bought forty acres adjoining his original purchase and prospered so well that he came in time to own two hundred acres and to rank with the "well fixed" farmers in his neighborhood. After he was well established and had demonstrated the value of Ohio as a place for fortune building he sent to Germany a favorable report of his success, which induced many of his friends to follow him across the ocean. In that way he was instrumental in planting quite a colony of Prussians in the then backwoods of Ohio. In this movement he



was the animating and controlling spirit, for he was above the average in intelligence and ability. He was a Democrat, but at the time of the Civil war he was as loyal to the government at Washington as any man that lived. No one more sincerely mourned the lamented Lincoln than did he. He was foreign born but American hearted. In his gifts to the church and to charitable institution he was, for a man of his wealth, more than liberal. At one time he donated one thousand dollars to the Evangelical church and another thousand to the orphanage connected with it, and he was likewise generous, giving always in an eager Christian spirit. Catharine, his wife, died August 2, 1864. Later he married Annie Somers. His first wife bore him six children, three of whom, Harrison, Amos and Samuel E., lived to maturity. The father died April 22, 1900. By that time he had added to his holdings till he owned four hundred and twelve acres.

Samuel E. Detterman, son of John H. and Catharine (Stigermire) Detterman, was born on his father's farm in Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, January 16, 1849. He owes the common school system for his education and was reared practically to farm labor in all its details. Adopting farming as his life work, he has been in the highest degree successful. On a borrowed capital of forty dollars he married Miss Jane Showman, of Bloom township, Seneca county, in 1870. Of that sum he paid a fee of five dollars to the preacher who made them one, the remaining thirty-five dollars was expended for household expenses while he was earning more. He soon bought his father's farm at nine thousand dollars, his father crediting him with three thousand dollars and taking his word for six thousand, all of which were satisfied in good time. He later bought the remainder of the home farm, a hundred acres more, then added two hundred acres to his holdings, owning now four hundred acres of as good land as there is in Seneca county, with up-to-date buildings equal to any in his vicinity. He is a farmer of more than average experience and intelligence. In addition to his successful general farming he has shipped hay and dealt in agricultural implements. His wife has borne him children as follows: Emmet E., born in 1872, a farmer in Scipio township, married Sarah Dewalt and has had three children: Addison L., Merrill C. and Halceon B. Detterman; John U., a farmer in Bloom township, was born on his father's farm in 1874; he married Miss Anna M. Richards, daughter of the Rev. J. N. and Maria Richards, in 1900, and they have children named Samuel N. and Jennie M. Richards. He operates a farm of one hundred acres. Samuel W., born on his father's farm in 1881, handles a farm of one hundred and eighty acres, ships hay and sells farming implements. He married Miss Clara Miller, daughter of Henry Miller, in 1907. She was born in Bloomville in 1877. Mr. Detterman is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Jacob R., born in 1884, married Miss Viola Tegarben June 13, 1910. Harry H., youngest child of Samuel E. and Jane (Showman) Detterman, was born in Bloom township in 1888. He married on October 2, 1910, Lottie May Deppins, of Bloom township.

B. F. Tomb is a farmer of ease and influence whose farm and home are situated in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, where he has lived since 1897. He was born in Pleasant township, Seneca county, in 1845, and was there reared and educated. Before he was sixteen years old he started with others to make the overland journey to California. That was in 1859, a year before the beginning of the Civil war. To the youth that trip was an inspiration and a broadening of his education. It was full of strange events, hardships and experiences that he will never forget. At one time, the stock of the party stampeded. At another they were, men and beasts, without water, a terrible deprivation of which one who has not endured it can have no adequate conception. After their arrival the party found that their troubles were not ended. As this is not planned to be a hard luck story, the recital of them will be omitted. After his return to Ohio young Tomb made a strenuous effort to enter the Federal army to fight for the stars and stripes, but he was debarred from that glorious privilege by his extreme youth. In 1862, however, he made a second attempt and was accepted as a private in Company I, Eighty-sixth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Western Army. After three months' service he was honorably discharged, with the ranks of corporal. In 1864 he enlisted as a member of Company A, One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was employed till the end of the war in guard duty in and around Washington D. C. Receiving another honorable discharge he came back to Ohio.

While Mr. Tomb was reared as a farmer he developed business ability which has from time to time led him into other activities. Eventually he became identified with the lumber trade, in which he was concerned in different states a number of years, but returned in time to his early vocation. His farm consists of one hundred and thirty-five acres of valuable and productive land.

In 1865 Mr. Tomb married Miss Norah Benham, daughter of F. D. and C. P. (Platt) Benham, who has borne him five children, three of whom are living: Mrs. Mary Davidson; Leonard, who married Cora Miller; and Harry, who married Gertrude Demmick. His own parents were Benjamin and Mary A. (Leonard) Tomb, natives of Pennsylvania, who settled in Seneca county, Ohio, on a farm of four hundred and fifteen acres in Pleasant township, in 1844. Benjamin Tomb was a man of considerable means and signal business ability. He associated himself in the banking business with Mr. Arnold, under the firm name of Arnold and Tomb, bankers. The style of the firm was changed to Tomb, Huss and Company, bankers. The bank operated by Messrs. Tomb, Huss and Arnold was a private bank of solidity and popularity which was eventually merged in the First National Bank of Tiffin.

Benjamin and Mary A. (Leonard) Tomb had ten children, whom they named as follows, in the order of their birth: Sarah J.; Jacob, deceased; Mary A., deceased; Massa, deceased; Rebecca; Thomas B., deceased; B. F.; Emma, deceased; George, deceased; Harry.

Miss Norah Benham, who became Mrs. B. F. Tomb, was born

in Tiffin in 1845, to F. D. and C. P. Benham, natives of Connecticut, who came to Seneca county in 1837. Her father was for some years a local express agent, died February 10, 1882. His wife died January 25, 1877. They had children named thus in the order of their nativity: Edward F. F., James A., George C., Daniel W., Amelia C., Lenora F., William W. and Robert B. Mrs. Norah (Leonora F.) Tombs is the only surviving member of her parents' family. The Tombs were members of the Baptist church, while Benhams were Presbyterians.

SAMUEL BAKER.—An enterprising, skilful and progressive agriculturist, Samuel Baker, late of Tiffin, Ohio, was for many years numbered among the substantial and worthy citizens of Seneca county. Laboring with an earnest purpose, far seeing and industrious, he accumulated a handsome property as a general farmer and spent his last years retired from active pursuits in Tiffin. He was born, May 19, 1837, in Eden township, Seneca county, Ohio, of pioneer ancestry, and his grandfather, whose name was also Samuel Baker, was a pioneer settler of the state of New York. Mr. Baker's father, Thomas J. Baker, was born and bred in New York state, coming alone to Seneca county in early life. Succeeding to the occupation of his ancestors, he purchased land in Eden township, and was there actively engaged in tilling the soil until his death, in 1862. He married Sarah Boyd, who after his death moved to Tiffin and here spent her last years, passing away in 1888. Of their seven children but two are now living, namely: Julia, of Philadelphia, widow of Albert Ewer; and Caroline, widow of John Lapham, now residing in Portland, Oregon.

The fifth child of the parental household, Samuel Baker grew to manhood on the home farm, living with his parents until ready to establish a home of his own. He received better educational advantages than many of the farmer's sons of his day, after leaving the district schools completing his studies at Oberlin College. Laying aside his agricultural implements during the progress of the Civil war, he enlisted in the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was commissioned second lieutenant of his company, which was known as the "Squirrel Shooters." With his regiment he was stationed at Fort Haggerty much of his term of service. Returning to Eden township at the close of the war Mr. Baker resumed the charge of his farm, and as a farmer and stock raiser met with unquestioned success, becoming one of the most extensive landholders of his community. He became owner of a number of farms in Eden township and of a large farming estate in Bloom township. Retiring from active labor in 1890, he employed men to look after his different farms and moved to Tiffin, where he lived retired until his death, July 19, 1907. He was a staunch Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he served as steward and trustee for many years. He took great interest in the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was an active and valued member.

Mr. Baker married, December 22, 1859, Levina McCormick, who was born in Eden township, Seneca county, November 20,





Samuel Baker



1837, a daughter of Samuel McCormick, Jr., and granddaughter of Samuel McCormick, Sr., one of the early pioneers of Seneca county. Her father married Melvina Pence, a daughter of Henry Pence, also a pioneer of this county, and both he and his wife died in early life. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Baker, namely: Dugald Cameron, who superintends the farming property; and Harry B., of Tiffin, an undertaker.

EDWARD W. CURRIGAN, for twenty-seven years United States Express employe at Tiffin, Ohio, and a man well known in G. A. R. ranks, is a native of the "Buckeye state" and has passed his whole life within its bounds, save the time he served his country as a soldier in the Union army in the war between the north and the south.

He was born in Bollville township, Sandusky county, Ohio, March 22, 1842, a son of James and Margaret (Quinn) Currigan; and was just emerging from his "teens" when the Civil war was inaugurated. On August 5, 1862, he enlisted as a member of Company H, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for a term of three years, and was assigned to the First Brigade, Second Division, Fourth Army Corps. He served with this command until May 6, 1863, when he was discharged on account of disability, he having been wounded in the right arm and shoulder at the battle of Stone River, Tennessee, December 31, 1862. On February 5, 1865, having recovered sufficiently to re-enter the service, he again enlisted, this time as third sergeant in Company B, One Hundred and Ninety-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Second Corps, Army of the Shenandoah Valley, the fortunes of which he shared until he was honorably discharged on December 18, 1865, in the mean time having been promoted to the rank of brevet lieutenant; and by general order of the war department was mustered out at Columbus, Ohio. He has to his credit active participation in the following named battles: Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862, Knob Gap, Tennessee, December 26, 1862, and numerous other skirmishes. His company received the flag for being the best drilled.

When Leander Stem Post, No. 31, Department of Ohio, G. A. R., was organized Mr. Currigan was among the charter members and of this post he served three years as post adjutant and three years as post commander. Also he is identified with the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, of which for a period of twenty-eight years he has been secretary and treasurer, and has been elected to this position for life.

On April 6, 1864, at Clyde, Ohio, Mr. Currigan married Miss Eliza J. Van Winkle, a native of Newark, Licking county, Ohio, born March 12, 1844, and the children given to them are Fanny, born March 4, 1865, died February 20, 1866; Ida M., born November 22, 1868; and Luella, born April 13, 1871.

GEORGE C. KALBFLEISCH.—One of the prominent yet unassuming business men of Seneca county is George C. Kalbfleisch, of Tiffin, secretary and stockholder of the Tiffin Art Metal Company and manager of the Great Western Pottery Company. He is



identified with many of Tiffin's leading enterprises and has achieved success in his career by a sturdy and intelligent application of his abilities to the duties of his position.

A representative citizen, enterprising and progressive, he has a bright future before him, and, his life and health being spared, his name will become known beyond the confines of his present home city, county and state. Mr. Kalbfleisch is married and his pleasant home on North Sandusky street is a center of social activity. His wife was before marriage Anna Snyder, and they have a daughter, Catherine.

LEWIS O'CONNELL.—The substantial and well-to-do residents of Tiffin have no more worthy representative than Lewis O'Connell, who is actively identified with the mercantile interests of the city as a dealer in coal and hay. A native of Tiffin, he was born September 1, 1869, a son of Edward O'Connell. His grandfather, Thomas O'Connell, was born, reared and married in Ireland, and on coming with his family to the United States located in Seneca county, Ohio. A lad of eight years when he came with his parents to Seneca county, Edward O'Connell was reared and educated in Hopewell township. Locating in Tiffin soon after attaining his majority, he was here busily employed as a teamster until his death. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Brigett Mary, three children were born, namely: Lewis, the special subject of this brief sketch; Minnie R., a graduate of the Tiffin High School and now a teacher in the Miami street building; and Frank, deceased.

Leaving school at the age of fourteen years, Lewis O'Connell began life for himself, being first employed by Dildine & Glick in the coal yard which he now owns. He worked for four years in various capacities, at the age of eighteen years being placed in charge of the coal yard and the hay business. The business subsequently passed into the hands of C. Hatcher, with whom Mr. O'Connell continued for some time. On August 1, 1895, Mr. O'Connell purchased a third interest in the business, and on May 25, 1903, another change occurring in the personnel of the firm, he became head of the firm of O'Connell & Knepper, each member owning one half of the business. In a little less than three years Mr. O'Connell, on February 12, 1906, bought out his partner, and has since been conducting the large and extensive business. He handles coal and hay, being one of the most extensive wholesale dealers of hay in Seneca county. Beginning work for himself on the modest salary of one dollar a day, Mr. O'Connell has made rapid strides along the pathway of prosperity, and attributes his success solely to his strict application to business.

Mr. O'Connell is still a single man. In his political affiliations he is a sound Democrat. Fraternally he belongs to Tiffin Lodge, No. 77, F. & A. M.; to Seneca Chapter, No. 42, R. A. M.; to Clinton Council, No. 47, R. & S. M.; to De Molay Commandery, No. 9, K. T.; to the Knights of Pythias; and to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

WILLIAM DUDROW.—A man who is generally recognized as one of the leading citizens of Seneca county and whose influence is always given to just causes is William Dudrow, an agriculturist and the scion of a family which for a good many years has been influential in the locality. He was born August 22, 1856, in Adams township, near the town of Lowell, his parents being David W. and Mary Rule Dudrow. The father, like a number of Seneca county's citizens, was a native of Maryland, having come from Frederick county in that state, and the mother's parents having been residents of the county. They were among the first families to settle in the locality and they enjoyed a well deserved consideration, the father being a man of judicial mind, clear vision and fairness, whose advice was sought by other men. His high moral character was everywhere recognized and made his opinion of the utmost weight. He gave loyal allegiance to the Republican party and he took an active interest in township politics and all those questions effecting the whole body politic.

William Dudrow spent his early years upon his father's estate, and those excellent principles which had always directed the elder man's life and conduct became his own by force of example. Beside that practical training in the various departments of agriculture which he received from his father he was initiated into the mysteries of the "Three R's," as the previous generation had been wont to term a rudimentary education. His attendance at school was at the academy of Republic, Ohio, under Professor Hall.

On October 19, 1881, Mr. Dudrow established a home of his own by marriage, the lady whom he asked to share his fortunes through life being Miss Adelle Crockett, the descendant of a family of doughty pioneers, whose history includes many thrilling pages. She was born June 20, 1859, the daughter of Edward and Eliza (Brown) Crockett, both native Ohioans. Edward Crockett was the son of James and Mary (Haskell) Crockett, the latter a descendant of William Wallace, the only survivor of a village of white people in the state of Maine, who were massacred by the Indians in the days when the redman was lord over the fertile valleys and abundant forests and streams of America. He was a babe at the time and his escape was a narrow one, he having been flung to the ground and left for dead. The mother suffered a cruel fate by burning, blazing pine knots having been bound to her body.

Mrs. Catherine Sherrick, maternal grandmother of Mrs. Dudrow, was a noble pioneer woman, born July 5, 1811, in Hopewell township, Perry county, Ohio. She lived to see the dawn of the twentieth century, being ninety-eight years of age at the time of her demise. She and her parents were among the first white people in this, Scipio township, the father, whose name was Elijah Brown, having entered land from the government in 1828 for his mother. In 1841 he conveyed his little family to this locality in an ox cart, leaving them with a friend while he went into the unbroken wilderness to erect his log cabin. They came to be among the best known of the settlers in the locality and their kindness and generosity made them everywhere held in affection. Their hands were ever extended to help the poor and the needy and to care for

the sick. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mrs. Dudrow's father, Edward Crockett, was born in Pleasant township, Seneca county, Ohio, near Watson Station, on the 22nd day of November, 1833, and he died on his place two miles east of Greenspring, February 20, 1908. His parents James and Mary Haskell Crockett, were natives of Maine and of Scotch descent, and they were people of notably fine character. James Crockett's father served in the war of 1812 and his grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. In early life Mr. Crockett came with his parents in search of a new home where the natural conditions were favorable and they settled on land near the village of Lowell, this homestead now being known as the Engler farm. There the head of the family maintained the home until he removed to the present family estate some fifty years ago. He enjoyed an unusually good education for those days, this being acquired in the old academy at Republic, which was at that time one of the best institutions of its kind in the country. This he utilized for general advantage by becoming a school teacher, in which profession his earlier years were passed, and his last term was taught at the Raymond school. He was married, September 12, 1858, to Miss Eliza J. Brown, and ten children were the issue of their union. The off spring were by name Adelle, Henry, Charles, Nellie, Frank, Theodore, Mable, Catherine, Elijah B. and Alice. Charles and Theodore died in childhood and Frank, at the age of twenty-four, years, the rest of them becoming useful and successful citizens. Mr. Crockett was of the most admirable and lovable nature, finding his greatest happiness in bringing happiness to others. He was a thorough Bible student, especially of the New Testament and widely promulgated the law of Christ, "that ye love one another."

Mr. and Mrs. Dudrow are the parents of two children, a son and a daughter named William Jr. and Mary, and both of these young people have been afforded good educational advantages. William graduated from the Veterinary College at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Mary, from the high school at Greenspring. The son was born November 18, 1883, and the daughter, September 2, 1890, and she still resides with her parents. William is married to Ethel Perin and is located at Greenspring, Ohio.

Mr. Dudrow takes great interest in public issues and casts his vote with the Republican party, and he has held several of the township offices. He and his family have their church home in the Evangelical church and take an active part in the Sunday school. Like those of the family who have gone before them they are generally respected and beloved and those in need of sympathy, advice or more material benefits come freely to them.

Besides his activities in the line of general agriculture Mr. Dudrow has several additional interests, being connected in an important capacity with the Commercial Bank and the telephone company. With his brother, Fred Dudrow, he is associated in live stock interests, buying and selling. He has a wide reputation as a stock breeder and engages extensively in the shipping of cattle hogs and sheep. The beautiful residence with its attractive surroundings is situated near Greenspring and is the center of a gracious hospitality.



**HENRY ZIEGLER.**—One of the foremost citizens and a representative farmer of Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, Henry Ziegler was born on his father's old homestead farm in Venice township, this county, on the 23rd of March, 1860. He is the son of Henry and Louisa (Keller) Ziegler, the former of whom was born in Baden, Germany, and the latter in the kingdom of Bavaria. In 1854 they emigrated to America, Henry Ziegler locating in Bloom township, where he hired out as a farm laborer for about three years. By German thrift and industry he accumulated enough money to justify the purchase of a small farm in Venice township, and after his marriage, in 1858, he and his wife here maintained their home until 1864, when Mr. Ziegler purchased eighty acres of land in Eden township. He subsequently added an adjoining tract of eighty acres to this and here he spent the residue of his life, his death occurring November 9, 1877, at the age of fifty-two years. Mrs. Ziegler survived her honored husband by a score of years and she was summoned to eternal rest in October, 1897, at the age of sixty-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler were the parents of eight children, whose names are here entered in order of birth: Jacob, Henry, John, Susan M., George, Christopher L., Emiline K. and Adam A., and of the number seven are now living.

Henry Ziegler was second in order of birth and was but four years of age at the time of his parents' removal to Eden township. Here he was reared to adult age and availed himself of the advantages of the common schools. At the time of his marriage, in 1887, he located on a farm of eighty acres in the same township and devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1891, when he removed to Lyken township, Crawford county, where he followed the same vocation on a farm of one hundred acres. At the expiration of two years he returned to Eden township and undertook the management of the home farm, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. He also purchased forty-three acres in Texas township, Crawford county. About 1905 Mr. Ziegler removed to Bloom township, where he now owns and operates three hundred and sixty acres of finely improved land, on which his splendid buildings, costing no less than seven thousand dollars, are the finest in the township. His farm is devoted to diversified agriculture and his fine stock and crops command the highest market prices. In politics Mr. Ziegler is an uncompromising supporter of the principles and policies of the Democratic party and he has served most efficiently and satisfactorily as road supervisor and as township trustee. Both he and his wife are devout members of the Base Line Reformed church, to whose charities he has been a most liberal contributor.

On the 27th of September, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ziegler to Miss Clara Klaiss, who was born and reared in Bloom township and who is a daughter of Thomas and Mary Klaiss. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler are the parents of seven children, namely: Frank L., Fannie M., Blanche M., Raymond A., Eliza E., Cora A., and Howard J., all of whom remain at the parental home. The modern and attractive family residence is known throughout the county for its generous hospitality and gracious refinement.

HIRAM W. YEAGER.—In the annals of Seneca county no man is more worthy of representation than Hiram W. Yeager, a genial, broad minded, whole souled man, who has spent the larger and better part of his life in Tiffin, where he now holds a prominent position among the more prosperous and progressive citizens. Beginning life for himself with no other resources than a courageous heart, willing hands and a self reliant spirit, he has steadily onward trod the path of progress. By wisely directed industry and thrift he has accumulated a handsome property, having quite extensive and valuable real estate interests, and being identified with various important corporations as a stockholder and as an officer.

Born on a farm in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, he is a son of the late Jacob Yeager, a blacksmith and farmer, whose ancestors were for generations born and reared in the Keystone state, where the founder of the family settled when coming to this country from Germany. Spending his early life on the parental farm, Hiram W. Yeager gleaned his early knowledge of books during the winter terms of the district schools, his education there acquired being supplemented by one year's attendance in a high school. At the age of sixteen years, in the spring of 1864, he started westward, arriving in Tiffin, Ohio, with the meagre sum of one dollar and twenty-three cents, his entire wealth, in his pocket. Hunting up an old friend in the country, he soon secured employment on a farm, where he remained six months. In the fall of 1864, inspired by true patriotic ardor and love of country, he enlisted in Company C, One Hundred and Eightieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to Schofield's Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, and actively participated in a three days battle at Kingston, North Carolina. Remaining as a soldier until the close of the war, he was mustered out of service at Columbus, Ohio.

Coming out of the army with the munificent sum of four hundred dollars in his pockets, Mr. Yeager spent money very freely, the amount seeming to him almost inexhaustible. The illusion was only too soon dispelled, and finding himself again nearly penniless he began learning the marble cutter's trade, which he followed most successfully until about 1890, when the Soldier's Monument at Fort Ball was completed. Mr. Yeager has been actively associated in his career with many enterprises and projects, having been a successful oil operator, president of a cattle company in New Mexico, and an extensive dealer in real estate. Being an excellent judge of property, he holds much valuable realty, and as a buyer and seller is eminently successful. He has a warm heart, is generous and liberal toward others, and many men now prosperously engaged in business owe their start in life to his thoughtful kindness and liberality.

Mr. Yeager is a stockholder and a director of the Tiffin Savings Bank; is president of the News Publishing Company; a stockholder and a director in the Columbus Life Insurance Company; is financially interested in the Consolidated Telephone Company; and is actively interested in the furniture business, spending much of his leisure time in its business house.

Fraternally Mr. Yeager is a thirty-second degree Mason and

much interested in promoting the good of the order. Politically he is a straight forward Republican, standing high in the party and being a successful worker in its ranks. He has represented his district in many state conventions and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1908.

EDWARD C. MAY occupies a place among the foremost men connected with the business activities of Tiffin, Ohio, which has been his home for the past dozen years. Mr. May is a native of Ohio and was reared and educated in this state, receiving a common school education and having the advantage of two years in college. At the age of fourteen he began learning the trade of tool maker, a trade he followed from that time until he was twenty-five. While employed at Cincinnati, Ohio, he was offered the position of assistant superintendent of the La Stella Machine Company at Monterey, Mexico, which he accepted and where he spent two years. At the end of that time, in 1899, he returned to Ohio and established his residence at Tiffin, where he embarked in the fire and casualty insurance business, which he has since continued, having the leading business in his line in the city. In 1906 Mr. May helped to organize the Tiffin Commercial Club, which was incorporated in the fall of that year, and of which he has since been secretary. Thus he is not only in touch with city affairs, but is a prime mover in the activities which make for the advancement of the city's best interests.

Politically Mr. May is a Democrat, active and influential in local party matters. In August, 1909, at the hands of Mayor Joseph C. Arnold, he received the appointment of director of public safety, which placed him at the head of the fire and police department, and to this position he was re-appointed January 1, 1910, at this writing being the incumbent of the office.

Fraternally Mr. May belongs to the K. of C., and the B. P. O. E. He married Miss Jennie Jentgen, of Tiffin, Ohio, and they have two children, a daughter and son, Alice and Charles, aged respectively eight and six years.

WILLIAM H. RENNINGER, a contractor and builder of Tiffin, Ohio, was born in the neighboring state of Pennsylvania September 7, 1871, and there spent the first nine years of his life. In 1880 his parents moved over into Ohio and established their home on a farm in Seneca county, where William H. was reared and received a district school education. At the age of nineteen he began work at the carpenter's trade, and soon also engaged in contracting, and this business he has since followed successfully.

On February 17, 1897, Mr. Renninger married Miss Minnie Koch, who was born August 11, 1877. In 1903 they moved to Tiffin, which has since been their home, he having erected the modern residence which they occupy at 149 Sycamore street. Both are prominent members of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church.

Fraternally Mr. Renninger is identified with the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics, the Knights of Pythias and the Free and Accepted Masons, in the Masonic Order having received the Knight Templar degree.



ALBERT R. YOUNG.—In the front rank of Greenspring's prominent citizens stands Albert R. Young, who is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business and who is not only one of the most thorough and up-to-date of the representatives of his line but who is everywhere regarded in the light of a just and upright man. He is German in extraction and is a worthy member of a race everywhere regarded as superior in natural gifts and in education. He was born February 14, 1851, in Adams township, Seneca county, the son of Charles and Mary C. (Spangler) Young, who emigrated from Germany in their youth. The father was born September 27, 1817, at St. Julian in Rhenish Bavaria, and when a youth about twenty years of age, inspired by the many flattering accounts of the opportunity of the new world, he said farewell to old friends and old associates and set sail to claim his share of the waiting good. He first located in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, and there followed his trade, which was that of a wagon maker, until 1845, when he concluded to follow the progress of civilization westward and came into the Buckeye state, locating in Seneca county. He secured land about nine miles northeast of Tiffin, and there followed agricultural pursuits for the rest of his life. He had taken a wife a few years after coming to America, she being Mary C. Spangler, daughter of John Spangler, born in Germany. Their union was solemnized April 6, 1841, in Frederick county, Maryland, and it was blessed by the birth of a family of ten children. All but the youngest member were sons, the names of the children being: Henry F., Charles M., Lewis W., John P., George W., Albert R., Josiah, Daniel, Edward A. and Minerva. In 1870 the father retired from the duties of agricultural life which had occupied him for many years, and removed his household to Greenspring, where he remained until his death, which occurred November 28, 1877. The wife and mother passed to the great beyond November 7, 1873, when about fifty-four years of age, her birth having been upon October 28, 1819. The paternal grandfather, Peter Young, lived nine miles southwest of Kusel, the county seat of Rhenish Bavaria.

Albert R. Young received his education in the public schools of Seneca county and remained upon his father's farm until he became eighteen years of age. About that time, having come to the conclusion that he would not make agriculture his life work and by the consent and advice of father Young, who knew the mechanical ability of the son, he having worked in his shop since boyhood, advised him to learn a trade. In the spring of 1869 he went to Dayton, Ohio, and took up the trade of carpenter, working for one year among seventy-five men, building in all ninety buildings. In the spring of 1870 he came to Greenspring, Ohio, and commenced work for Wolfe Brothers, working for them three years, during which time he helped to build the Stinchomb block, Myers block, Fisher block and a great many of the dwellings in Greenspring and vicinity. In the spring of 1873 he built his first funeral car and started in the undertaking business. On September 4, 1873, Mr. Young was married to Miss Ida J. Miller, of Adams township. She was born January 4, 1856. Three children have



*A. R. Young*





been born to them, Mary B., born November 8, 1874; Charles J., born March 5, 1876; and Bernard A., born May 25, 1880. Mary B. was married to Fred Rall October 2, 1895, and their daughter, Hazel E. was born April 26, 1898. Mr. Rall resides in Greenspring, his occupation being that of a contractor, carpenter, painter and paper hanger. Charles J., eldest son of Albert R. Young, was married to Catherine Crockett, who was born March 26, 1877, the daughter of Edward and Eliza (Brown) Crockett. To this union have been born two children: Albert E., born July 17, 1897, and Alice C., born January 29, 1907, the former of whom attends the Greenspring High School. Bernard A., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Young, was married to Anna J. Lee, December 20, 1900, and she was born April 22, 1881, her parents being Martin and Mary (Ritchie) Lee. To this union has been born one son, Herman B., born April 25, 1906.

Charles J., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert R. Young, was educated in the village school and left his desk at the age of sixteen years to assist his father in the furniture and undertaking business, and has been very prominent in public affairs and has held various offices. He was treasurer of Greenspring village three years, was elected assessor two years and has held the office of school treasurer. He has pronounced musical ability and was a member of the Greenspring band at the age of fourteen years. He obtained his expert knowledge of his profession at the Massachusetts College of Embalming, from which institution he was graduated May 24, 1904, taking his first term at Columbus, Ohio, and the second term in Cleveland, Ohio, with Professor A. Johnson Dodge, lecturer and demonstrator, and has diploma and embalmers license. Bernard A., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert R. Young, was graduated in the Greenspring public school and the Greenspring College of Commerce. He has been in the insurance and banking business since the fall of 1900 and at present is cashier of the Commercial Bank Company, and enjoys the highest confidence of the officials. Mrs. Young's parents were Jacob and Sarah (Robenalt) Miller, the former a native of Yates county, New York, born February 21, 1838, and he came to Seneca county with his parents then a lad nine years of age. The names of the grandparents were Daniel and Anna (Bergstresser) Miller, the latter of whom died March 4, 1849. Jacob Miller when sixteen years of age learned the cooper's trade, and followed the same for twenty-six years with the exception of two years spent in mining in California. His western ventures were very fortunate, and with his gains in that quarter he was able to purchase a farm of two hundred and four acres and to erect a handsome residence costing over three thousand dollars. In 1857 he was married to Sarah Robenalt, daughter of Soloman Robenalt, of Clinton township, born September 1, 1837. They reared a large family, ten children being born to them. Mr. Miller is a member of the Reformed church. He has served in several township offices and is prominent in the community in which he has made his home for so many years. Mrs. Miller passed to the great beyond December 7, 1908.

Albert R. Young is in the enjoyment of much consideration from his town and community, which esteem him as a public spirited citizen, and as one ever ready to support all those measures likely to prove generally beneficial. He is extremely loyal to the policies and principles of the Democratic party, and has been elected to fill several offices in the village of Greenspring, which is largely Republican. He has served on the school board, as treasurer of schools four years, served on the village council and as mayor of the village for nearly five years. In 1878 he was given the contract to build the town hall, and after completing the building Mr. Young occupied one room in the same building for his furniture business until 1896, at which time he purchased a lot from the Stem estate and in the spring of 1896 built the brick block which is being occupied at the present time for his furniture business. Mr. Young has experienced unqualified success. He is a professional embalmer, having attended the school of Professor Sulivin at Columbus, Ohio, also the school of Professor A. Johnson Dodge, lecturer and demonstrator at Columbus, Ohio, and has diplomas from each of the schools. Mr. Young was the first one to introduce the use of the stone grave vaults in this section of the country.

In 1880 Mr. Young entered into partnership with his brother, D. W. Young, and erected a four story factory building for the purpose of manufacturing furniture, and was enjoying a good business when, in April, 1883, the factory, together with all its contents, was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of ten thousand dollars, after which time Albert R. Young bought out the interest of his brother and conducted the furniture business alone.

CHARLES A. KROUT.—The high rank which the public schools of Tiffin have attained among similar institutions of learning in county and state is largely due to the untiring efforts of Charles A. Krout, the efficient superintendent of these schools. He is a man of broad intellectuality, especially and intelligently interested in educating the young along practical lines, and through his own ability and force of character has attained a place of note in a profession that demands as the price of success much native talent, a distinctive mentality and a vast amount of hard labor. A native of Ohio, Mr. Krout was born, March 12, 1862, in Morrow county. His father, Jacob Krout, married, in Maryland, Sarah Rule, and in 1858 came to Ohio, locating in Morrow county. He died in 1903, but his widow, now eighty-four years of age, is living in the village of Williamsport, Ohio.

A conscientious student as a boy and youth, Charles A. Krout laid a solid foundation for his future education in the village schools of North Woodbury, after which he spent a year in Keokuk county, Iowa, where he taught in a rural school. Returning then to Ohio, he was graduated from the Chesterville High School, his diploma being signed by the president of the local board of education, Mr. Gunsaulus, father of the noted and far-famed Rev. Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, of Chicago, president of the Armour Institute of Technology. After his graduation Mr. Krout taught

school in Morrow county until 1883, when he entered Wittenberg College, at Springfield, from this well known institution being graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1887. Three years later, in 1890, his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of A. B. During the three years following his graduation from college Mr. Krout was superintendent of the village schools of New Burlington, Ohio, a position which he resigned in 1890, when he was elected as a teacher in the Tiffin High School. In 1891 he was promoted to the principalship of the school, a responsible position which he filled so ably and acceptably for ten years that in 1900 he was the people's choice for superintendent of the Tiffin schools.

Mr. Krout is a close student, progressive in his methods, and has devoted his entire time and energy to teaching and study, doing summer work at Harvard University and the Teachers College, Columbia University. He has served as president of the Northwestern Ohio Teachers' Association; has for twenty years been an active member of the Ohio State Teachers' Association; and since 1900 has been a member of the National Educational Association.

Since assuming the superintendency of the Tiffin schools, Mr. Krout has been instrumental in having special instructors in drawing, manual training and public speaking added to the corps of teachers, and many improved methods of teaching have been introduced into the schools.

Mr. Krout married, June 25, 1895, Mrs. Eva E. (Bacher) Hartman, formerly a successful teacher in the Tiffin High School. Mrs. Krout is a daughter of J. T. Bacher, a retired clothier of Tiffin, who now, a venerable and highly esteemed citizen of eighty-four years, is tenderly cared for by his loving daughter. Mr. and Mrs. Krout are the parents of two sons, John Allen and Charles Vincent.

Fraternally Mr. Krout is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics; of the Knights of Pythias; and is a member and past master of Tiffin Lodge, No. 77, Free and Accepted Masons, and a member of De Molay Commandery, No. 9, Knight Templars. Religiously Mr. Krout is a member of the English Lutheran church, and for several years has served as superintendent of its Sunday school. He has been a delegate to state and national synods and is a member of the board of directors of Wittenberg College.

REV. ALBERT C. SHUMAN, D. D.—A man of strong religious convictions, extremely earnest in purpose, Rev. Albert C. Shuman, pastor of the First Reformed church of Tiffin, has ever been an ardent believer and upholder of the truths of the Holy Scriptures, and now in the very prime of his Christian activity is carrying on a notable work. A self made man in every truth, his splendid example of obtaining a thorough and wide education without adequate means at the start is an object lesson to every ambitious and aspiring young man. He was born, September 5, 1868, in Seneca county, a son of Thomas G. and Mary J. (Zeis) Shuman, whose farm was located five miles north of Tiffin, in Liberty township.



Brought up on the parental homestead, Albert C. Shuman worked on the farm, attending school during the winter terms until seventeen years of age, when he made use of the knowledge he had acquired by teaching school four terms. Becoming convinced of the necessity of further mental training and high attainments of learning he entered Heidelberg College in 1887, and was there graduated in 1892 with the degree of A. B. The following year Mr. Shuman was superintendent and principal of the Bascom public schools, but in 1893 he abandoned teaching and for three years continued his studies in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated with the degree of B. D. in 1896. Being then ordained to the ministry, he was installed, in April, 1896, as pastor of the Bascom church, of which he had charge until July, 1900. Taking up work at Sycamore, Wyandot county, that month, Mr. Shuman remained there nearly seven years, during which time he built up one of the strongest churches of his denomination in that vicinity, erected both a beautiful and modern stone church and a parsonage, and left the society in a prosperous condition. In May, 1907, he accepted a call to the First Reformed church of Tiffin, of which he was formerly a member, and is here meeting with characteristic success, having a large church membership, which is continually growing and increasing in strength, while the classes which he has organized are in a flourishing condition. In 1908 his well deserved degree of D. D. was conferred upon him by Heidelberg University as a recognition of his character and ability. Mr. Shuman is very prominent in the ministry, and has the distinction of being at the head of the Ministers' Association of Tiffin.

Apart from his ministerial labors, Rev. Shuman has been a frequent contributor of articles of value to the Reformed Quarterly Review, the Christian World, and other publications. He is also the author of "Catechetical Bible Lessons," which was issued in 1905. He was president of the Ohio Synod of the Reformed church in the United States in 1907-8, and is a member of the executive committee of the board of regents of Heidelberg University. He has been elected several times commissioner of the highest judicatory of the church, the general synod. For a number of years he was a member of the board of education and examiners of Heidelberg Theological Seminary. He delivered the Semi-Centennial poem at the fiftieth anniversary of his alma mater in 1900, and also was one of the speakers at the sixtieth anniversary in June, 1910.

Rev. Shuman married, June 20, 1893, Minta M. Miller, of Hillsville, Pennsylvania, and they are the parents of four children, namely: Aleta E., Herbert M., Annie Marie and Clayton Henry. Fraternally Rev. Shuman is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

HARVEY B. HUNTER, clerk of Clinton township, Seneca county, Ohio, resides at No. 415 Walker street, Tiffin, Ohio.

Mr. Hunter is a native of the township in which he lives, having

ing been born here November 20, 1861, a son of Samuel S. and Emma (Tunison) Hunter. His father being a farmer, he passed his boyhood days on the farm and received his early education in the district schools, later attending graded school and still later Heidelberg College, in which institution he was a student two years. At the close of his college days he settled down to dairy farming, in which he was engaged for ten years, selling his products in Tiffin. At the end of that time he moved to Tiffin, where he has since been engaged in the real estate and general insurance business.

As showing Mr. Hunter's popularity, we state that as a Republican candidate he has been three times elected to the office of township clerk in a township that usually goes Democratic by a majority of one thousand votes. At this writing he is serving his third term in this office.

Mr. Hunter has been twice married. By his first wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Reed and whom he wedded in 1886, he had six children, five of whom are living: Walter C., Burton S., Robert R., Clarinda C. and Edgar E. The mother died March 24, 1904. In 1907 he married Miss Viola Wagoner, by whom he has one child, Beula, born in 1908. Mr. Hunter and three of his sons belong to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

HANNAH L. TURNER.—No influence is more potent and far reaching than that of true wifehood and motherhood, and few native daughters of Seneca county have attained to higher ideals of true womanhood or have exploited them more eloquently by actual living than Hannah L. Turner. She was born April 16, 1846, near Greensprings, in Adams township, Seneca county, the names of her parents being James Allen Watrous and Hannah F. Carpenter, people of English descent. The father was born in New London, Connecticut, September 2, 1803, and he died on December 28, 1884, at Greenspring, his age at the time of his demise being eighty-one years. In his youth he had the benefit of unusual advantages, being reared and educated in a New England community, noted for its schools, its churches and its general intelligence and culture. With imagination fired by the tales of adventure to be encountered and wealth to be acquired in the newly settled state of Ohio, he came west in 1831, his years at that date numbering twenty-eight. He first located at New Haven in Huron county, but subsequently came to Greenspring, with whose growth and development he became identified in the most praiseworthy manner, in his day witnessing many phenomenal changes. He took an active interest in churches and schools, being the stalwart champion and advocate of both causes, and his own superior training making his services of particular value. He cast his vote with the Republican party and at the time of the Civil war he strongly favored the Union cause. James Watrous had a taste of genuine pioneer life, and when he came here from New England he drove through with ox teams, an overland journey fraught with danger and difficulty. When he subsequently found it advisable to return to New London with his wife for medical aid it was neces-

sary to make the long trip on horseback, and to return in the same manner. Mrs. Turner's mother came to Greenspring with her first husband, they being Connecticut people, and they located on land now occupied by the site of Greenspring town hall. Her first husband was Mr. Phineas Adams, one of the earliest settlers, and whose name is borne and perpetuated as the appellation of the township in which he had the distinction to be the first white man. After his death the widow married James A. Watrous who had been previously married and who was the father of a family of sons and daughters. The second union resulted in the birth of the following children: Nancy E., Hannah L., Alice, Albert S., and Peter.

In 1868 the subject was united in marriage to James P. Turner. This union was blessed by the birth of the following five children: Harry, born April 14, 1870, at Oil City; Lyle, born November 4, 1871, also at Oil City; Nellie A., born December 3, 1873; Mary R., born January 18, 1876, at Greenspring; and Allen W., born July 5, 1878, at Greenspring. The family resided at Oil city for five years.

Harry Turner is a traveling salesman for a wholesale hardware business located in Canton, Ohio. He joined the ranks of the Benedicts on December 25, 1895, when he married Miss Lillie Lautsbaugh, of Chicago Junction, and they have a family of five children, whose names are: Harold, Pine, Lyle, Ethel and Elmer. He received his education in the public schools of Greenspring, leaving the high school to assist his mother. Lyle Turner is bookkeeper for the Eastern Ohio Gas Company of Cleveland. He was educated at Greenspring and took a business course in the academy. Nellie A., is the wife of Dr. Charles H. Hickok and resides in Cedar Rapids. Mary R., is a graduate of the academy at Greenspring, as is likewise Allen W., the latter having a traveling position with the Eastern Granite Company of Chicago.

The subject is a student, not having abandoned studies with the passing of school days. She is particularly interested in natural history and has read every available work written in that line. She is an extensive traveler and besides the attractive home in Greenspring, owns a place in Eden, Florida. In her possession are some very interesting mementoes of the early days in the shape of letters written in 1837 by Julia Adams, who was a sister of her first husband.

HARRISON DETTERMAN.—America has been likened to a great melting pot in which all the nations of the earth have been assimilated and brought to national citizenship, and no one can deny that one of the most valuable elements in this composition is the German, that stock which has given to the world a multitude of great names and whose humble citizen is above the average in ability and character. Of this nationality is Harrison Detterman, one of the well known and much esteemed men of this section. He was born November 31, 1837, and is the son of Henry and Catherine (Stigmire) Detterman, natives of Westphalia, Prussia, who, tempted by the accounts of the wealth and opportunity which lay across the Atlantic, came to these shores in June, 1835. Coming



on to Ohio, they settled on Honey creek, near Melmore in Bloom township, this county, and entered eighty acres of land, which they cleared from the wilderness and brought to tillable condition, being engaged in this Herculean task for nine long years. Nothing daunted, the senior Detterman subsequently bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of solid forest and cleared it with the assistance of his young son Harrison, who still possesses this old homestead, every inch of which is endeared by the memories of many years and many events. Henry Detterman is remembered as a good citizen who gave his hand to the upbuilding of this township, and was particularly the friend of good churches and good schools. He was a member of the Evangelical church and was class leader for forty or fifty years, also acting in the capacity of Sunday school superintendent for many years. He was a Democrat in politics.

The father of Harrison Detterman came to America when a youth eighteen or twenty years of age. His imagination had been fired by roseate accounts of this country and although he had little money he secreted himself on a merchantman and in this manner was accomplished his emigration. He ultimately found his way to Sandusky, Ohio, and then walked twenty-seven miles to the home of a family which had come from his native place. His wife, who with her friends had located in Sandusky, made the journey on foot with him, the affair being in the nature of an elopement, and at the home of the friend they were married. She was born in Germany and came over with Mr. Detterman. Henry Detterman died in 1903 and his wife passed on to her reward in 1873.

Harrison Detterman received what education was available in the district schools, with his parents faced bravely the difficulties of pioneer life, and grew to useful citizenship. He was one of a family of five children, the other members being: John, who resides in Bellevue; William, in Adams township; and Allie and Algy, who live at Bellevue. He lived under the home roof until his marriage to Sophia Heinzle, which was celebrated October 8, 1859. She was born October 12, 1837, and was the daughter of Henry and Sarah (Keller) Heinzle, natives of Pennsylvania who came to the Buckeye state early in the eighteenth century. They located north of Tiffin on the Sandusky river, on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres which they had secured from the government, and virtually lived among the Indians who had not yet been swept westward by the tide of civilization. The five children of this pioneer family were Louis, Sophia, Elizabeth, William and Barbara, all of whom are deceased except Sophia and William, and the latter makes his home on the old Heinzle homestead.

Shortly after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Detterman moved to land one mile east of the father's estate, and there resided for nine years, at the end of which time they returned to the old farm. Their residence here was of forty years duration, but two years ago, desiring to retire from the more strenuous duties of the agricultural life and to enjoy at leisure the fruits of their previous industry and thrift, they came to Greenspring where they expect to make their permanent home. Politically Mr. Detterman's

loyalty is with the Democratic party, although he is not partisan to the degree that he allows long affiliation with the party to prevent his supporting any good measures, no matter by whom advanced. He had given public service, having held the office of township trustee for several terms, and he has also been township supervisor. He is one of the most faithful and valuable of the members of the Evangelical church, in which he has a record of thirty-five years as steward, and in the Sunday school he has an even more remarkable record, that of forty-five years as superintendent. It goes without saying that he is much beloved by young and old, particularly by the former, many of whom have greatly benefitted by his spiritual guidance. He is a veteran in the field of Sunday school work, his career of usefulness in this line having begun when he was scarcely twenty years of age. He is a good public speaker, his advocacy being usually given to church and Sunday school work. His interest extends to the national body, in which he has received recognition. Mr. and Mrs. Determan are the parents of four children. John H., born October 16, 1860, resides on a farm near Bellevue. His wife's maiden name was Catherine Moyer, and they are the parents of one child, named Lida, born July 4, 1898. William A., born in 1861, married Bell Hoppis and resides on a farm in Adams township, the names of their two sons being Earl and Alva. Martha E., born October 7, 1870, makes her home with her parents. George E., born in February, 1875, lives in Bellevue. He married Susan Moyer. All of the children are members of the Evangelical church, having joined in early youth.

FRANK W. BACON.—As one of the leading industries of Ohio milling has reached extensive proportions, and the connection of Frank W. Bacon, of Tiffin, with mills in various towns and counties has made him widely known throughout the state. He was born October 10, 1860, in Crawford county, Ohio, which was also the place of birth of his parents, William and Savena (Hawk) Bacon. William Bacon was employed as a miller in Crawford county until 1875, when he moved with his family to Seneca county, locating in Bloomville, where he owned and operated a grist mill for four years. Coming to Tiffin in 1879, he purchased the Clifton mill on Washington street, the plant now occupied by the Seneca Company (stockfood), which he operated until his death, in 1894.

Receiving a practical education in the public schools of Crawford and Seneca counties, Frank W. Bacon subsequently learned the trade of a miller with his father, and worked in the mills until the father's death, in 1894. Having in the meantime acquired a good knowledge of milling, he then purchased the interests of the remaning heirs in the Tiffin mill, which he operated successfully until 1897, when he sold out to the late Martin Koller. Removing then to Sidney, Ohio, Mr. Bacon bought and operated a mill for a while, and was afterward engaged in buying and selling milling properties for two or three years, among the mills which he bought and sold having been the Peter's Mill, at Milford, Michigan; the

Ridgeway Mills, at Ridgeway, Ohio; the mills at East Liberty, Ohio; and the Grafton Mills, at Grafton, Ohio.

Returning to Tiffin in 1902, Mr. Bacon purchased the Pioneer Mill, which is situated on the river in the eastern part of Tiffin, and has since operated it most satisfactorily. He has other property of value in this vicinity, and is the owner of eighteen acres of land lying within the corporation of Tiffin. He still retains the agency for selling grist mills, in this connection having at times extensive transactions.

Mr. Bacon has been twice married. He married first, in 1885, Minnie Johnson, the third daughter of the late Judge Johnson. She died in 1900, leaving one daughter, Eugenia, who passed to the life beyond in 1904, at the early age of eighteen years. Mr. Bacon married for his second wife, in 1902, Lida Sexton, and they have two children, Roger H. and Cora F. Politically Mr. Bacon is a steadfast Republican, and socially he belongs to the Ohio Millers Association and to the National Federation.

REUBEN S. DYSINGER, of the firm of Dysinger & Torrey, contractors and builders, Tiffin, Ohio, has been engaged in this business since 1907. He has been identified with the erection of many of the new residences of the town, among which is his own modern home, No. 5 Circular street.

Mr. Dysinger was born in Jackson township, Seneca county, Ohio, October 16, 1854, a son of David and Sarah (May) Dysinger. His father being a farmer, he was reared to farm life, and he was educated in the district school and at Heidelberg College, where he pursued a three years' scientific course. On reaching his majority he left the farm and went to work at the carpenter's trade, to which he has since devoted his energies, and since 1907 has been engaged in contracting.

On June 20, 1896, Mr. Dysinger married Miss Seintoth, a native of Tiffin and for fourteen years a teacher in the Tiffin schools. They have three sons: Vinton, Miron and Herbert.

Mr. Dysinger belongs to Pickwick Lodge, No. 175, K. of P., of which he is a trustee, and he is also a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. While he casts his franchise with the Democratic party, he has never been active in politics.

HARRY H. FRAZIER.—A man of broad culture, possessing much intellectual quickness and strength, Harry H. Frazier, principal of the Columbian High School at Tiffin, holds a position of prominence among the leading educators of this part of Seneca county. A native of Ohio, he was born in 1870 in Zanesville, Muskingum county, being of Scotch-Irish descent on the paternal side and of German lineage on his mother's side.

Left an orphan when but ten years old, he was heavily handicapped in his early struggles for an education. Living on a farm near Zanesville, he attended the district schools until sixteen years of age, when he was enabled to enter Muskingum College. He subsequently attended college and taught school, alternately, for five years, his full time at the college covering a period of three years.



During the summer of 1891 Mr. Frazier entered the Ohio Normal University, and having completed the classical course in that institution was there graduated in July, 1892. Going to New Washington, Crawford county, he began his professional career as principal of the high school, a position which he held three years. Being then, in 1895, elected superintendent of the schools of that village, he served in that capacity until June, 1900, giving eminent satisfaction to all concerned.

Continuing his studies in the meantime, Mr. Frazier was given a common school life certificate in 1894, and in 1895 was granted a high school life certificate. From 1897 until 1900 he pursued his studies at Heidelberg University in Tiffin, where, in June, 1900, he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. A constant student, he has since taken post graduate studies at the University of Chicago. The week after he received the degree of B. A. Mr. Frazier was elected principal of the Tiffin High School, and in the years that have since elapsed has met with almost phenomenal success in his labors. In 1910 he was appointed a county examiner for Seneca county.

Mr. Frazier is a member of various local and state teachers' associations, and is active influential not only in educational circles, but in church, lodge and public enterprises.

EDMUND SHELBY MYERS, one of Tiffin's highly respected citizens and one of the Buckeye state's well known newspaper men, has had a varied and interesting career and one which has taken him into many quarters of our country. His present and most important connection is as an exponent of the Fourth Estate, for he is identified with the Advertiser Company of which for many years his brother, the late John Michael Myers, had editorial direction. The publications of the Advertiser Company, as is well known, are the *Seneca Advertiser*, established in 1832, and the *Daily Advertiser*, established in 1886.

Edmund Shelby Myers was born in Clearspring, Washington county, Maryland, December 18, 1840, his parents being Michael and Anna E. (Wagner) Myers, both of whom were of Teutonic origin, and thus the subject partakes by inheritance of those splendid traits which have ever made the German one of America's most desirable elements of emigration. In the month of May, 1856, the Myers family, consisting of father and mother, four sons and two daughters, left Maryland and followed the tide of emigration westward, and attracted by the natural advantages of this particularly favored portion of Ohio, located at Seneca county, where the parents passed the remainder of their lives. They speedily became known as the champions of all just causes and in consequence enjoyed the respect of the community in which they were best known. The father was a contractor and builder by vocation and his residence in Tiffin was of thirty-five years duration, for he lived to see the year 1891, passing on to his reward at the ripe age of eighty-one years. The mother was summoned to her eternal rest in 1876, at the age of sixty-four years.

A greater part of the educational discipline of Mr. Myers was



*E. S. Myers*





secured in the Maryland public schools, for he was sixteen years of age when the family traversed the intervening hills and vales to the wild young virgin country, which in a few years was to become the granary, the vital core of the nation. They lived for a while at Fort Seneca, but after several years, in April, 1862, to be exact, removed to Tiffin, which was to be the permanent seat of their activities. The spirit of adventure burned in the breast of young Edmund and in April 1864, he went overland to Boise City, Idaho, where, the gold fever having not yet abated, he prospected for gold in the mountains for about a year and a half. In November, 1866, very much richer in experience, at any rate, he returned to Ohio and went into partnership with his brother, the late John Michael Myers. That revered and much regretted gentleman became a compositor in the office of the *Seneca Advertiser* in February, 1860, and three years later was installed as editor and publisher of the pioneer newspaper of Tiffin. In 1878 a third brother, E. Bruce Myers, became a partner also. The brothers continued to be thus associated with the conducting of the business until April, 1884, when they disposed of a two-third interest to L. A. Brunner and J. W. Geiger. In 1888, after the death of Mr. Brunner, they bought back the plant and business of the *Advertiser*, the daily edition of which had been established two years previously. About 1890 they erected their present building, the entire plant being enlarged and otherwise improved, while at the present time the equipment throughout is of the most modern and metropolitan type.

Mr. Myers has from time to time been associated in other business enterprises and is a stockholder of the Citizens' National Bank of Tiffin. In 1884 he went into the cattle business with his brothers, John Michael and Edward Bruce, the latter being also deceased. These cattle operations were carried on in New Mexico, and the subject had charge until June, 1908.

On December 14, 1870, Mr. Myers laid the foundation of a happy married life by his union with Miss Ellen Haas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Haas, of Tiffin. No children were born to their union.

The influence exerted by Mr. Myers has ever been of the most enlightened and altruistic character, and it is to his credit that the powers invested in him as an exponent of the Fourth Estate have ever been put to noble uses.

D. S. HAMILTON, a representative of Tiffin, Ohio, engaged in the shoe business, was born in Scotland, of Scottish parents, December 6, 1850, and until he was sixteen years old he lived in his native land. Then he came to America. He had received the usual common school education and learned the trade of shoe cutter previously to his coming to this country, and on his arrival here he stopped first at Cleveland, Ohio, where, on Superior street, he obtained employment in a shoe shop. Not long afterward we find him at Cincinnati, employed as a cutter for Prichard, Smith & Company, and from there he came to Tiffin to work in the same capacity for the Tiffin Shoe Company, with which firm he remained

six years. Returning to Cincinnati in 1878, he engaged with Stribey & Company, as a cutter, and subsequently left them to accept the position of superintendent and general manager of the factory department of J. & A. Simpkinson & Company, which place he filled for a period of five years. After this he was engaged by Goodbar & Company, of Memphis, Tennessee, to fit up and start a factory, and gave a year's time to the work. Then he went back to Cincinnati, and for four years had charge of Rosenthal & Company's factory. Returning at the end of that time to Tiffin, he engaged in his present business, which he has since successfully conducted.

Mr. Hamilton married a Tiffin young lady, Miss Cora F. Stoner, daughter of Milton Stoner, and they have three sons and two daughters, all at home.

In fraternal work Mr. Hamilton has for years been active and influential. He is Past Chancellor of the K. of P. Lodge, No. 80, and is identified with Masonry up to and including the Commandery. He is a member of Robert Burns Lodge, No. 163, F. and A. M.; Olive Branch Chapter, R. A. M.; Jefferson Council, R. & S. M., and Newport Commandery, No. 13, K. T. And in these bodies he has filled all the chairs save those of high priest of the Chapter, captain of guard in the Council and eminent commander in the Commandery. At this writing he is secretary of the Tiffin Board of Health. He votes the Republican ticket.

DR. D. PROCTOR CAMPBELL, (deceased) was a man of high civic ideals and a practitioner whose loss to the profession is still keenly felt, and although his death occurred nearly a decade ago his memory is still green in the community in which he played a useful and prominent part and where he was regarded as a man among men. Dr. Campbell was born in Hampton, New Hampshire, March 1, 1842, his parents being David and Betsy (Godfrey) Campbell. They were natives of New Hampshire and belonged to the agricultural element. After lives of activity and usefulness this worthy couple went to Boston, where in the leisure of retirement they enjoyed the fruits of their former industry and thrift, and it was in that city that they were called to the great beyond.

The early years of D. Proctor Campbell were passed at the place of his birth and his preliminary educational discipline was acquired in the schools of the Shaker society of Canterbury, New Hampshire, and under the private instruction of Professor A. J. Goss, M. A., of Epsom, Merrimack county, New Hampshire, a distinguished scholar who devoted the latter part of his life to teaching. In 1864 Dr. Campbell began the study of medicine under the instruction of some of the most eminent physicians in the eastern states, including Dr. Dio Lewis and others of equal note. He was very thorough in his preparation for the distinguished calling to which he was subsequently an ornament and a credit and continued his study until 1874. He began his practice in Dubuque, Iowa, and in his short stay in that city attained to success and recognition. He even then took further post graduate work, attending the New York College of Medicine and the Cincinnati

College of Medicine, graduating from the latter institution in 1877.

The identification of Dr. Campbell with Greenspring dated from the year 1881, and within a few years he had built up a large practice. It was not long before he had gained a prominence much more than local, and his advice was sought far and wide. He was not a man of rugged constitution, and finding the labors of general practice too severe for him he took up sanatorium work at Greenspring. In later years he also engaged in several business ventures, both at home and in Colorado, in which state he was vice president of the Granite Mountain Mining Company and interested in mines at Idaho Springs. He had gone to Colorado largely on account of his health, which was so benefitted by the high altitude and change of climate that he found himself able to return to Greenspring and to resume his practice, which he followed until his death, this generally mourned event occurring January 7, 1901. The indomitable energy and inflexible will which were salient characteristics were not matched by bodily strength and this poorly balanced combination no doubt contributed as much as anything towards his failing health. His professional life was marked by many successes and his reputation was well established throughout this and neighboring states.

Dr. Campbell laid the foundation of a happy home life by his marriage, May 23, 1878, to Miss Alice Watrous, their union being celebrated at Bedford, New Hampshire. The lady to become his wife was a native of Greenspring, a daughter of James A and Hannah F. (Carpenter) Watrous, natives of New London, Connecticut. They left New England and came to Ohio in about the year 1825, and here maintained their residence until their demise, that of the mother occurring in May, 1882, and that of the father in December, 1884. To Dr. and Mrs. Campbell was born but one child, a daughter, named Gracie T., whose birth date was July 7, 1883.

The mother of Mrs. Alice Campbell, the widow of Dr. Campbell, was twice married, her first husband having been Mr. Finus Adams, whose name Adams township bears. He was one of the first settlers, in the early '30s making his abode in a log house which stood where the town hall now stands. After the death of Mr. Adams his widow left the farm. In 1840 she married James A. Watrous who had been previously married and was the father of three daughters and two sons. This second union was blessed by the birth of the following children: Naney E., born February 14, 1843; Hannah L., born April 16, 1846; Alice, born May 16, 1849, a twin of Albert S., who died April 16, 1853, at the age of four years; and an infant named Peter, who died at the age of three weeks. Mrs. Campbell survives her husband and makes her residence in the home left by him.

THOMAS P. JOHNSTON.—A large and valuable contribution to the material and civic upbuilding of the city of Fostoria has been made by this well known and highly esteemed citizen whose interests here are of wide and varied order, including a large investment in real estate, and he is an able member of the bar of the



county, besides which he is now serving in the office of justice of the peace.

Thomas P. Johnston is a native son of the fine, old Buckeye state, as he was born in Benton township, Hocking county, Ohio, on the 21st of June, 1855. He is a son of James and Sarah (Barton) Johnston, who were natives of Perry county, Ohio, and who finally emigrated from the state of Ohio to the state of Idaho, where they passed the residue of their lives. The father's vocation during the greater part of his active career was that of a tanner and banker. He whose name initiates this article was reared on the home farm and after duly availing himself of the advantages of the public schools he entered the Ohio University, in which he completed the prescribed course and was graduated as a member of the class of 1876, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Thereafter he devoted some time to the reading of law at Logan, this state, and later he was identified with the life insurance business. Mr. Johnston established his home in Fostoria in 1887 and here continued his law studies under effective preceptorship. He was admitted to the bar in 1894 and he has given more or less attention to the work of his profession, though he has found consistent demands upon his time in connection with his large and successful operations in the handling and improving of real estate, in connection with which he has had charge of properties owned by a leading syndicate in Fostoria. He has erected a substantial, modern business block and sixty dwelling houses, a number of which he still owns. Through his efforts in this direction he has done much to further the development of the city and he has been known at all times as a liberal and public spirited citizen. He was the first secretary of the Fostoria Board of Trade, with which he is still actively identified, and he is an interested principal in a number of manufacturing industries in his home city. Mr. Johnston is a staunch advocate of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor and he has given effective service in the promotion of its cause. He has been a delegate to various public conventions and he has been active in its local work. He has held the office of justice of the peace since 1909 and he was acting mayor of Fostoria for a period of one year. Mr. Johnston is affiliated with the Home Guards of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and his religious faith is that of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In Hocking county, Ohio, in the year 1880, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Johnston to Miss Josephine P. Hies and they have two sons. The elder son, Clyde N., was graduated in both the literary and law departments of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and is now professor of Latin in the leading college in the state of Oregon. The younger son, Dr. Cecil J. Johnston, is engaged in the practice of his profession in the city of Chicago.

MARTIN L. BAUMGARDNER.—One of the best known and most successful contractors and builders of Seneca county, is Martin L. Baumgardner, head of the firm of M. L. Baumgardner & Sons, of Tiffin. He has long been an important factor in advancing the

industrial prosperity of this part of the state, and has been especially active in the upbuilding of his home city. A son of Joseph and Mary (Rinsey) Baumgardner, he was born December 27, 1849, in Tiffin, at No. 200 South Monroe street. His father located in Tiffin in 1837, and as a mason and a contractor erected many of the older buildings of the city.

At the age of eighteen years, having obtained a practical education in the Tiffin schools, Martin L. Baumgardner began working with his father, and in 1888 started in business for himself as a contractor and builder. He has built up a substantial business in this line, filling large and valuable contracts, and as his work increased he admitted to partnership two of his sons, Frederick J. and Carl W., the firm name becoming M. L. Baumgardner & Sons. This enterprising firm makes plans when desired, the junior members of the firm being skilful architects, and also manufacture all kinds of cement products, including the cement blocks used in building. In the filling of its many contracts this firm does the entire work from start to finish, and the work is invariably satisfactory. Messrs. Baumgardner are all very pleasant, genial and courteous, prompt and eminently trustworthy in the completion of their many contracts. They have erected many beautiful residences and substantial buildings in Tiffin, among others drawing the designs, making the plans and building one of the structures connected with the Saint Francis Orphans' Home.

Mr. Baumgardner married, in 1875, Johanna Eidt, and into their household three sons have been born, namely: Frederick J., Carl W. and Aloysius. Mr. Baumgardner and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church, of which his father was one of the five organizers and toward the support of which he is a generous contributor. Politically he is independent, casting his vote for the best men and measures regardless of party restrictions.

BERNARD A. YOUNG.—The services of Bernard A. Young to the Commercial Bank Company of Greenspring in which institution he is the trusted and efficient cashier, are of a valuable character and his promotion to this high trust came as the natural sequence to a decade of usefulness in another capacity. Of the younger generation, he is progressive and up-to-date in his ideas and he is one of the beneficent factors in the many sided life of the community. Mr. Young is a native of Greenspring, Ohio, his birth having occurred on the 25th day of May, 1880. His parents are Albert R. and Ida J. Young, their sketch appearing elsewhere in this volume.

Mr. Young is bound to Greenspring by many ties of association, for it was within her pleasant limits that he passed his youthful years and it was here that he attended the public schools, being graduated from their higher department in 1896. With a view to preparing for future usefulness he then entered the Greenspring College of Commerce, being graduated from that institution in 1898. Shortly thereafter he sought employment with his father and while thus associated he had charge of the bookkeeping department of the furniture business. His father took occasion to show

C. J. Oller, of Findlay, some of the work done by the subject, and Mr. Oller, who was much pleased with it, later returned to consult with the elder Mr. Young with reference to the son's taking the position of assistant cashier in the bank. And this after due reflection was agreed upon on all hands. He, Mr. Young, was appointed in October, 1900, and his salary has been gradually increased without his solicitation, as the confidence in his ability has grown from day to day. On the death of Mr. McIntire, which occurred April 14, 1910, and who at the time of his demise was cashier, Mr. Young was elected to the cashiership of the bank and this position he has continued to hold. The deposits during the past few years have quadrupled.

The Commercial Bank Company of this city has a capital stock of \$25,000. Its officers are N. W. Cunningham, of Bluffton, Ohio, president; C. J. Oller of Findlay, Ohio, vice president; and Mr. Young cashier; while the directors are as follows: N. W. Cunningham, C. J. Oller, William Dudrow Sr., John Holtz and G. H. Schuster. The bank transacts regular banking and savings business, paying three per cent interest on time deposits. It is insured against burglary both day and night, having a time lock safe. The company owns its own building. Mr. Young's services to the institution have recommended him in the most eloquent manner. He likewise has the agency of all kinds of insurance and success has ever accompanied his enterprises.

Mr. Young is a Mason and takes great interest in the affairs of this ancient and august order, in whose circles he is a prominent figure, his geniality and social talent recommending him to all who know him. He is also identified with the Knights of Pythias. He is past chancellor and has represented the lodge several times in conclaves. He gives his heart and hand to the Republican party and is interested even to the point of activity in local politics, insofar as they pertain to the public welfare. Like all good citizens he is public spirited and a student of current events.

On December 20, 1900, Mr. Young joined the ranks of the Benedicts, taking as his wife Miss Anna J. Lee, daughter of Martin and Mary C. (Ritchie) Lee, natives of Topeka, Kansas. The wedding of these two young people was solemnized at Pataskala, Ohio. Mrs. Young was born April 22, 1878, in Marysville, Ohio, but her home was properly Kansas. She subsequently removed to Van Wert, Ohio, where she received her education and grew to womanhood. To this union has been born one child, Herman B., on April 25, 1906.

FRANK E. NEAR.—Worthy of recognition in this publication as one of the alert and representative business men of Fostoria is Frank E. Near, who is superintendent and head miller of the finely equipped flouring mills here owned and conducted by Isaac Harter. He has been incumbent of this position since 1893 and his technical and executive ability have been potent in furthering the interests of the large and important industrial enterprise with which he is identified. He is a director of the Seneca Wire & Manufacturing Company and is a stockholder in the Commercial Bank & Savings Company, two of the leading business concerns of Fostoria.



Frank E. Near takes a due measure of pride in reverting to Seneca county as the place of his nativity and he is a member of one of the sterling pioneer families of this favored section of the Buckeye state. He was born at Tiffin, this county, on the 3rd of August, 1850, and is a son of Robert E. and Sarah A. (Shuman) Near, both of whom are now deceased. The subject of this review was only a few months old at the time of his mother's death and he was reared to the age of fifteen years in the home of his maternal grandfather, Philip Shuman, who was engaged in the shoe business in Summitt county. In the meanwhile he was afforded the advantages of the public schools and when seventeen years of age he entered upon an apprenticeship at the miller's trade, in which he has long been recognized as a most competent operative. For nine years he and his brother J. S. conducted a farm in the state of Illinois and at the expiration of this period he returned to Ohio and resumed the work of his trade, with which he has since been actively identified. For four years he held the position of expert miller for a prominent milling concern in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, and in 1893 accepted the superintendency of the Harter mills of Fostoria, where he has since remained in tenure of this responsible position. Mr. Near is progressive and public spirited as a citizen and is ever ready to lend his aid and encouragement in connection with the promotion of all enterprises that tend to advance the general welfare of the community. The Isaac Harter Milling Company's plant has a capacity for the output of twenty-five hundred pounds of flour in twenty-four hours and its brands of flour, known for their superiority, command a large and superior trade.

In politics Mr. Near gives his support to the Democratic party but he has never had any aspiration for the honors or emoluments of public office. He is affiliated with Wilmington Lodge, No. 218, Knights of Pythias; and with the N. P. Robbins Division of the uniformed rank of this fraternal order.

On the 4th of November, 1872, Mr. Near was united in marriage to Miss Lucetta Haulk, who was born in Summit county, Ohio, and she and her husband became acquainted in their childhood days. Concerning their three children the following brief record is entered: Mertie, who was born on the 13th of April, 1874, died on the 10th of November, 1875; Flossie M., who was born on the 3rd of January, 1877, is the wife of Warren Eberhard, of Wadsworth, Medina county, Ohio; and Earl R., who was born on the 17th of August, 1878, married Miss Abel Starkey and they reside in the city of Chicago. He was graduated in the Fostoria High School and in the Case School of Applied Science in the city of Cleveland, being now chief inspector for the Automatic Electric Company in the city of Chicago.

JACOB BRIDINGER, M. D., a practicing physician and druggist, No. 157 South Washington street, Tiffin, Ohio, came to this place in his boyhood and has made it his home ever since with the exception of a brief time spent at Ashland, Ohio.

Dr. Bridinger is a native of Pennsylvania. He was born in Northampton county, that state, March 25, 1843, and his early ex-

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perience was that of a farmer boy, assisting in the chores and other work of the farm and attending district school. In 1856 he came to Tiffin, where he continued his studies in the public schools and laid the foundation for his professional work. He pursued his regular medical course in the Eclectic School at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he graduated in March, 1876. Immediately after his graduation he took up his residence at Ashland, Ohio, opened an office and engaged in the practice of medicine. He remained there, however, only a short time. The following year, 1877, he came back to Tiffin, and with this city as his headquarters traveled throughout Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, representing the St. John Medicine Company, and was thus occupied until 1900. That year he settled down to the practice of medicine, which he has since continued, at the same time being with Frank L. Bridinger in the drug business at 157 South Washington street.

On May 31, 1866, Dr. Bridinger married Miss Elizabeth Halverstadt, and they are the parents of three sons, namely: Frank L., engaged in the drug business, as already stated, with his father; Harry J., a conductor on the B. & O. Railroad with headquarters at Garrett, Indiana, and Leon A., a resident of California.

For a period of thirty-three years Dr. Bridinger has been a member of Seneca Lodge, No. 35, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all the chairs. Politically he is what is known as an independent, voting for men and measures irrespective of party lines.

BENJAMIN F. COCKAYNE.—Worthy of special mention in this biographical volume is Benjamin F. Cockayne, an esteemed and highly respected citizen of Tiffin, living at the corner of Hunter and River streets, where he has a most attractive home. A Virginian by birth and breeding, he was born June 26, 1853, in Marshall county, Virginia, and was there educated, being graduated from Marshall Academy.

Desirous of trying the hazard of new fortunes, Mr. Cockayne came to Belmont county, Ohio, in 1874, locating in Bellaire, where he first found employment as shipping clerk in the works of the Stamping Company, of which he afterwards became a stockholder. Selling his interests in that firm he was engaged in mercantile pursuits until 1881, when he became one of the organizers of the Ohio Lantern Company and owner of one third of its stock. Subsequently disposing of his share of the stock, Mr. Cockayne embarked in the wholesale and retail crockery and house furnishing business, which he conducted with marked success until the spring of 1889. The Ohio Lantern Company being then moved to Tiffin, Mr. Cockayne again became associated with it, holding a half interest in the same until January, 1894, when he sold out. He has since been engaged in the manufacture of cigars and other things, and for the past eight years has successfully and profitably conducted a general insurance agency, with an office at room 8 in the court house.

A staunch Democrat in politics, Mr. Cockayne was real estate appraiser of the Second ward in 1900, and for three years was a member of the Tiffin Board of Education, declining, however, to

serve a second term in that office. He is now serving as justice of the peace for Clinton township. Fraternally he is prominent in Masonic circles, being past high priest of Bellaire Chapter and a Knight Templar, a member of the Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery at Tiffin.

Mr. Cockayne married, November 4, 1879, Sarah J. Brockman, who was born in Wheeling, Virginia, but was brought up in Bellaire, Ohio. Six children blessed their union, two sons and four daughters. One son died in infancy, and five children are now living, namely: Charles A., acting president and professor of philosophy and education at the Toledo University; Margaret A., wife of Rev. W. A. Clemmer, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio; Carolyn B.; Florence M.; and Wilhelmina, a member of the senior class at Heidelberg College. Mr. and Mrs. Cockayne and their children are members of the Presbyterian church.

EARL K. CUNNINGHAM.—It cannot be other than gratifying, in view of the nomadic spirit which seems to animate all classes of American citizens, to find a locality in which are persons who have passed their entire lives in the localities in which they were born, where they have achieved success through well directed efforts and where they command the respect and esteem of those who have been familiar with their entire careers. In Seneca county are to be found today many representative business men who are native sons of the county, and among this number is Mr. Cunningham, who is one of the enterprising and progressive business men and influential citizens of the younger generation in his native city of Fostoria, where he is the owner of the successful enterprise conducted under the title of the Cunningham Manufacturing Company. His status as a loyal citizen and substantial business man well entitle him to consideration in this publication.

Earl K. Cunningham was born in Fostoria, on the 27th of March, 1875, and is a son of Edward J. and Anne E. (Keller) Cunningham, both of whom are now deceased. The father devoted the major part of his career to the business of milling and was one of the honored and influential citizens of Fostoria at the time of his death. Earl K. Cunningham was reared to maturity in the city of his birth and to its public schools he is indebted for his early educational training, which included a course in the high school, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1893. During the winter of 1893-4 he completed a course in the Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in which he was graduated in the spring of 1894. He then returned to Fostoria and assumed the position of bookkeeper for the Cunningham Manufacturing Company, of whose office details he had charge until 1903, when he purchased the plant and business and has since been the owner, giving his active attention to the management of the enterprise, which has been signally prosperous under his directions. The establishment manufactures wheel stock, and in the same employment is given to a corps of from sixty to seventy-five operatives.

In local politics Mr. Cunningham maintains an independent attitude, giving his support to the man and measures commanding



the approval of his judgment, but in national and state affairs, where definite issues are involved he gives his support to the Republican party. He is most appreciative of the time honored Masonic fraternity and has been a close student of its teachings. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 288, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is past master; Garfield Chapter, No. 150, Royal Arch Masons, of which he is past high priest, besides which he is a member of the order of high priesthood of the state of Ohio; Fostoria Council, No. 90, Royal and Select Masters, of which he was the first thrice illustrious master; Fostoria Commandery, No. 62, Knights Templars, of which he is past eminent commander; Toledo Consistory, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, in the city of Toledo, in which he has attained to the thirty-second degree; and Zenobia Temple of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, in the city of Toledo. He is also identified with Fostoria Lodge, No. 935, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Mr. Cunningham is a bachelor and it may be stated that this fact in no wise militates against his personal popularity in the social affairs of his home city.

CHARLES DEPPEN.—Bringing to the practice of the profession of his choice energetic zeal and a well trained mind, Charles Deppen has gained an assured position among the successful attorneys of Tiffin, where he is now rendering noteworthy service as justice of the peace, a position in which he is serving his second term. A son of Eli Deppen, he was born, May 15, 1860, in Pennsylvania, but was brought up in Seneca county, Ohio. His grandfather, Rev. Isaac Deppen, was a noted preacher in the Evangelical church.

Inheriting the scholarly tastes of his father, Eli Deppen was interested in educational matters, and for several years was superintendent of schools in Reading, Pennsylvania. Coming with his family to Seneca county, Ohio, in 1860, he purchased land in Eden township, and was there engaged in general farming until his death, 1872. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah Zook.

In common with the sons of the neighboring farmers, Charles Deppen obtained his rudimentary education in the district schools. He subsequently entered Heidelberg College, from which he was graduated in 1888 with the degree of B. S. Returning then to the homestead, Mr. Deppen devoted his time to farming for about five years, but was scarce content with his future prospects. Coming, therefore, in 1893, to Tiffin, he studied law in the office of Noble, Keppel & Noble, making such progress as a student that in 1896 he was admitted to the Ohio bar at Tiffin. He subsequently practised law successfully in Tiffin until 1905, when he was elected justice of the peace on the Republican ticket, and served so acceptably for three years that in 1908 he was re-elected to the same position without opposition. Mr. Deppen has an extensive law patronage, his office being opposite the court house, in the Spayth block, while his residence is at No. 71 Coe street.

Mr. Deppen married Ella Blackburn, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, and they are both consistent members of the Church of Christ. Mr. Deppen is likewise a member of the Business Men's

Bible Class connected with the Methodist Protestant church. Fraternally he is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics; of the Modern Woodmen of America; and of the Auxiliary branch of the Grand Army of the Republic.

JAMES T. YANT.—One of the native sons of Ohio who rendered to the nation valiant service as a leal and loyal soldier of the Union during the climacteric period of the Civil war and who is now one of the best known and most honored citizens of Fostoria, where he has maintained his home for more than two score of years is James T. Yant, who is a scion of one of the pioneer families of the Buckeye state and who is now superintendent of the water works and clerk of the city council of Fostoria, incumbencies that well indicate the regard in which he is held in the community that has so long represented his home. Mr. Yant was born in Navarre, Stark county, Ohio, on the 28th of October, 1841, and is a son of John and Mary (Ager) Yant, the former of whom was a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Maryland. The father established his home in Stark county in the pioneer days and there reclaimed a farm from the wilderness. Both he and his wife continued to reside in that county until their death and their names merit a place upon the roll of those who played well their part in connection with the development and upbuilding of that section of the state.

James T. Yant gained his vital experiences in connection with the practical affairs of life from his association with the development and other work of the home farm, and after completing the curriculum of the district school he continued his studies in the schools in the village of Navarre in his native county. At the age of sixteen years he completed his school work and thereafter he continued to be identified with the work and management of his father's farm until he had attained to the age of twenty years. He had been ambitious and assiduous in his studies and was thus enabled to do successful work as a teacher in the district schools, having followed the pedagogical profession for several terms. In 1861 he moved to Huntington, Indiana, where he was engaged in the produce business for one year, at the expiration of which he returned to Stark county, Ohio, and resumed his association with agricultural pursuits. In 1864 he laid aside the work of the farm to take up arms in defense of the Union. In May of that year he enlisted as a private in Company A, One Hundred and Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the West, under the command of General Thomas. Mr. Yant saw much arduous service and participated in a number of important battles during the closing years of the great conflict between the north and the south. Among the most notable of these engagements may be mentioned Columbia, Franklin and Nashville. He continued with his command until the close of the war, when he was mustered out and he received his honorable discharge at Columbus, Ohio, on the 17th of July, 1865.

After the close of his career as a gallant soldier of the Republic Mr. Yant located at Prairie Depot, Wood county, Ohio, where he

had charge of a farm and also owned an interest in a general store. There he remained until 1867, when he removed to Fostoria, where he secured employment as a clerk in a dry goods establishment. He was thus engaged for a period of twelve years, at the expiration of which, in 1879, he engaged in the shoe business, to which he devoted his attention for the following decade. He was then, in 1889, appointed mail carrier in Fostoria, a position, of which he continued incumbent until 1903, in which year he was elected city auditor of Fostoria. He gave most able administration of this office and remained incumbent of the same until January 1, 1910.

Shortly afterward he was appointed superintendent of the city water works, in which position he is now serving, besides which he is clerk of the city council and also of the city board of control. Mr. Yant is a man of insuperable integrity and honor, of genial and engaging personality and no citizen has a more secure place in the popular confidence and esteem.

In politics Mr. Yant is an uncompromising advocate of the principles of the "Grand Old Party," and both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church, in which he holds the office of deacon. As evidence of his continued interest in his old comrades of the Civil war may be noted his affiliations with Norris Post, No. 27, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is a past commander.

On the 15th of April, 1879, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Yant to Miss Samantha A. Otis, of New Philadelphia, Tuscarawas county, Ohio. She was born and reared in this state and is a daughter of the late Dr. J. D. Otis, who here took up his residence in the pioneer days. Mr. and Mrs. Yant have one son, Harry O., who was born in 1870 and who is now traveling freight agent for the Ohio Central Railroad, with residence and official headquarters in the city of Toledo, Ohio. He married Miss Rebecca Kiger, and they have three children, Ruth K., aged thirteen years; Anna Jeannette, aged eight years; and James Harrison, aged four years.

GEORGE C. JENNEY.—One of the native sons of Ohio who has here gained prestige as an able and representative member of the bar is he whose name initiates this article. Mr. Jenney is engaged in the practice of his profession in the city of Fostoria, and is known as an able and versatile trial lawyer and is a close student of the profession to which he is devoting himself.

Mr. Jenney was born in Greenwich township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 3rd of October, 1864, and is a son of John and Emma (Mervin) Jenney, both of whom were residents of Huron county. The father is deceased, but the mother is still living and resides in Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Jenney was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and is indebted to the district and graded schools for his early educational discipline, which included a course in the high school at Greenwich, Ohio, in which he was graduated. That he made good use of the opportunities thus afforded him is evident when we advert to the fact that for the long period of fifteen years he was a successful and popular teacher in the public schools of his native state. He finally determined to prepare himself for the



profession of law and with this end in view he entered the law department of the Northwestern Ohio University at Ada, in which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1901 and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws. After his graduation and admission to the bar he continued to teach school for one year and in the month of May, 1901 he opened an office in the city of Fostoria where his novitiate in the work of his profession was of but brief duration, as he soon proved his excellent powers as an advocate and well fortified counselor and gradually built up a large and prosperous professional business, to which he has since devoted his undivided time and attention.

In politics Mr. Jenney has long taken an active and intelligent interest, keeping himself well informed concerning the questions and issues of the hour and giving his unqualified allegiance to the Democratic party, although he is the only member of his family to have become identified with this political body. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

On the 18th of October, 1905, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Jenney to Miss Lucy Mervin, who was born and reared in Huron county, Ohio, and who is a daughter of John Mervin, a prosperous business man of Rising Sun, Wood county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Jenney have no children.

ALBERT E. HEILMAN.—An energetic and enterprising business man of Tiffin, Albert E. Heilman is meeting with well merited success in his operations, as a dealer in new and second hand furniture having built up a thriving trade. A native born citizen of Tiffin, his birth occurring April 28, 1877, he is a son of John Heilman.

Having acquired his elementary knowledge in the city schools, he took a full commercial course at the Heidelberg College, completing his studies in 1895. Learning then the trade of a boiler maker, he followed it until 1904. In that year Mr. Heilman opened a second hand store at No. 1 South Washington street, where he has since been located. He has been exceedingly fortunate in his enterprise, winning a large and lucrative patronage. He handles both new and second hand furniture of all kinds, and makes a specialty of repairing, that part of his business being of much importance.

Mr. Heilman married Sophia Borgee, and they have one child, Vera Heilman. Mr. Heilman is affiliated with the Democratic party, but is not active in politics. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and both he and Mrs. Heilman belong to the German Lutheran church.

HENRY L. SEEBON.—The great empire of Germany has contributed a most valuable element to the complex social fabric of our American republic and among the citizens of German nationality in Seneca county is numbered he whose name initiates this sketch. He came to America as a young man without financial resources or influential friends and had the courage to face the battles of life with a strong heart and steady hand, by which means he was enabled to win in the stern conflict and to bring to bear determined purpose, sturdy self reliance and that self respect that is begotten of worthy ambition and a desire to do right under all circumstances.

Mr. Seebon was born in the province of Mecklenburg, Germany, on the 1st of November, 1849, and his parents passed their entire lives in their native land, where the father's vocation was that of a farmer. Mr. Seebon received the advantages of the excellent schools of his fatherland and in 1866, when about seventeen years of age, he severed the home ties and set forth to seek his fortunes in America. He landed in New York city and from the national metropolis straightway came to Seneca county, Ohio, and located in Fostoria, on the 26th of December, 1866. His capital was reduced to the lowest ebb at the time of his arrival but he found work on a farm in this vicinity, where he was thus employed for one year. For the ensuing four years he was employed in a brickyard in Fostoria. He was frugal and industrious and had the good judgment to carefully save his earnings. After the expiration of the period last noted he secured employment in a sash and door factory with the operation of which he was identified for sixteen years. He then, in 1886, initiated his independent career by engaging in the draying business. His original equipment consisted of one dray and a team of horses. He gave careful attention to the demands of his patrons and has succeeded in building up a large and successful business, in connection with which he utilizes six drays and an automobile truck of the best modern type. He has won success through his well directed energies and his sterling integrity of character has not failed to gain to him the unqualified confidence and esteem in the community in which he has maintained his home for more than forty years. Mr. Seebon is a Democrat in his political proclivities and both he and his wife are communicants of the Catholic church. The attractive family home is located on North Poplar street.

In the year 1875 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Seebon to Miss Catherine Delano, who was born in the state of Ohio and whose parents were natives of Ireland. Mr. and Mrs. Seebon became the parents of six children, of whom five are living: Nellie, Anne, Leo, Harvey and Margaret.

JAMES P. MOURER.—It is a matter of gratification to the publishers of this work to be able to offer within its pages a brief review of the career of this popular and representative member of the bar of Seneca county, of which he is a native son, being engaged in the practice of his profession in the city of Fostoria, which has been his home from the time of his nativity.

James P. Mourer was born in Fostoria, on the 18th of October, 1875, and is a son of John J. and Catherine (Knissel) Mourer, the former of whom was born in Alsace, France, now a German Province, and the latter of whom was born in Kaiserslautern, Germany. The father emigrated to America about the year 1864 and soon after his arrival he established his home in Fostoria, where he was successfully engaged in the clothing business for a number of years and where he died in 1898, at the age of forty-six years. James P. Mourer is indebted to the public schools of his native city for his early educational discipline and was graduated in the Fostoria high school as a member of the class of 1891. Soon afterward he







*L. R. Stewart*

began reading law in the office of Brown & Guernsey, one of the leading law firms of Fostoria, and finally he entered the law department of the celebrated University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, where he continued his studies. In June, 1894, Mr. Mourer was admitted to the bar of his native state, at Columbus, where he passed the prescribed examination before the supreme court and he immediately opened an office in Fostoria, where he has since been engaged in the active practice of his profession. His success is the more gratifying to contemplate by reason of the fact that he has been dependent upon his own resources from his early youth and that he has won advancement through his own efforts and abilities. His loyalty and devotion were shown in the early days, as he assisted in the care of his widowed mother, his younger brother and two sisters, besides which he made provision for continuing his arduous work of preparing for the exacting profession, in which he has achieved much prestige and distinction. He today controls a large and remunerative professional business and has given special attention to corporation law, in which department of practice his services have been in connection with many important corporate interests in this section of the state. Concerning his professional ability the following statements are apropos and worthy of reproduction in this article: "His preparation of a case is most thorough and exhaustive; he seems to grasp intuitively the strongest points of the law and fact while in his briefs and arguments the authorities are cited so extensively and the facts and reasoning are presented so cogently as to leave little doubt as to the correctness of his views and conclusions; no detail escapes him; every case is given its due prominence and the cause is argued with such skill and power that he rarely fails to gain a verdict."

Though he has never sought or desired the honors or emoluments of political office Mr. Mourer gives a stanch allegiance to the Republican party and in a fraternal way he is identified with the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, besides which he is an associate member of the Grand Army of the Republic, to which he is eligible by reason of his father's valiant service as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. Both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church.

Mr. Mourer married Miss Alberta Chance, daughter of Henry Chance, an honored citizen of Fostoria. They have one daughter, Gladys V. who was born on the 4th of June, 1896.

FRANCIS R. STEWART.—Seneca county has been the home of Captain Stewart from the time of his infancy and as nearly three quarters of a century have elapsed since his parents took up their residence in this county it may be seen that he is a representative of one of the pioneer families of this favored section of the Buckeye state. He has wrought out his own success through the persistent application of his energies and abilities and is at the present time, with one exception, the oldest business man in the city of Fostoria, where he has been engaged in the retail hardware trade since 1866. To him belongs the distinction of being a veteran of the Civil

war, in which he served with fidelity and patriotic ardor of a true son of the Republic, taking part in many of the important battles of the long and sanguinary struggles through which was perpetuated the integrity of the Union. He has been influential in business and civic affairs and is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the county that has so long represented his home and in which he has ever directed his course in such a way as to keep the needle of life true to the polestar of integrity.

Captain Stewart claims the old Keystone state of the Union as the place of his nativity and he is a scion of a family founded in America in the old Colonial days. He was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, on the 19th of December, 1835, and is a son of Thomas D. and Fannie (Riddell) Stewart, both of whom were likewise natives of Pennsylvania. In 1838, when he was three years of age, Captain Stewart's parents came to Ohio and settled in Clinton township, Seneca county, where the father instituted the reclamation of a farm from the forest wilds. He finally removed to Perry township, Wood county, this state, where both he and his wife continued to reside until their death and where both held a secure place in the confidence and esteem of all who knew them. Their names merit perpetuation on the roll of honored pioneers of the Buckeye state.

Captain Stewart was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and well recalls the scenes and incidents as well as the herculean labors that marked the pioneer epoch in Seneca county, with whose development and upbuilding he has been successfully identified. His early educational discipline was gained in the primitive district and subscription schools of Clinton township, this county, and his ambition was of such definite order that he spared no effort in the furtherance of his education. When twenty years of age he proved himself eligible for pedagogical honors and for many years he devoted the winter months to teaching in the district schools, while in the summer seasons he was identified with farm work and also applied himself to study along higher branches. For one year he was a student in Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, this county, and for some time he also continued his studies in a select school in Fostoria. He was still engaged in active work as a teacher at the time when the dark cloud of the Civil war cast its pall over the national horizon and his intrinsic loyalty and patriotism prompted him forthwith to subordinate all other interests to his country's call. Responding to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers, on the 15th of August, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He soon passed through the various grades of promotion until he was made captain of Company A of his regiment, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. The history of his gallant regiment practically constitutes the record of his faithful and efficient service as a soldier of the Union and he participated in many of the important battles marking the progress of the war. He was thrice wounded in action and was twice commended in general orders for gallantry in battle. He continued in active service until the close of the war and he received his





SURVIVORS OF THE 49TH REGIMENT OHIO VETERAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY TAKEN  
AT THE FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION AT TIPPIN, SEPTEMBER 28, 1910.  
ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY PRESENT. COLONEL M. F. MILES,  
PRESIDENT, CAPTAIN F. R. STEWART, SECRETARY.



honorable discharge on the 31st of December, 1865, having been in service with his command in Texas after the surrender of the great Confederate commanders.

After the close of his military career Captain Stewart returned to Seneca county and on the 1st of January, 1866, he arrived at Fostoria, where he forthwith established himself in the hardware business, with which he has continued to be actively identified during the long intervening years and in connection with which he has won well merited success. Upon his career as a citizen and business man there rests no shadow of wrong or suspicion of unfairness and the high plane upon which he has ordered his life has not lacked popular appreciation. He is exemplar of the most loyal and liberal civic spirit and has contributed of his aid and influence to the promotion of many enterprises that have had important bearing upon the material and social development and upbuilding of his home city and county. He is one of the most influential and valued members of the Presbyterian church in Fostoria, in which he has served as ruling elder consecutively since 1866. He assisted in the laying of the corner stone of the Fremont Street Presbyterian church in Fostoria in 1858, and he has been a most zealous worker in the vineyard of the divine Master since the days of his youth. For forty-four years he has been the teacher of the Bible class in his church, and both he and his wife are active in all departments of church work. The political allegiance of Captain Stewart has been given without reservation to the Republican party and he has given effective service in the promotion of its cause, having been public speaker in various local and state campaigns and being known as an eloquent and effective orator. His services in this capacity have also been in much demand outside of political lines and he is a man of broad inclination and fine intellectual powers, so that his addresses are invariably interesting and well turned. He served one term as mayor of Fostoria and for several terms was a valued member of the city council. He assisted in the organization of the first board of trade in his home city and was vice president of the same for a period of fifteen years. He has been an instrumental factor in connection with the securing of nearly every industrial enterprise in Fostoria and is a stockholder in several of the leading manufacturing and commercial corporations of the city. He was a factor in locating the old academy, was a member of the building committee and for several years a trustee. On the reorganization of the academy by Prof. W. E. Ashcraft, Captain Stewart was again elected trustee, and at the death of Hon. Charles Foster succeeded him in the presidency. He has ever retained a deep interest in his old comrades of the Civil war and is one of the honored members of the Norris Post, No. 27, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he has served as commander for several terms. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 288, Free and Accepted Masons, and in this organization has passed various official chairs. He is well known throughout this section of the state and his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances.

Mr. Stewart married on October 3, 1866, Miss Roxanna C.



DeWitt, of McCutchenville, Ohio, a daughter of John C. and Artemecia DeWitt. To this union were born five sons: Frank D., who died November 10, 1894, aged twenty-four years; Lee R., Homer V. D., Jessie C. and Victor W. The four living sons are all prosperous and influential business men. Homer V. D., is in partnership with his father; Lee R., is a civil engineer for the Bethlehem Steel Company of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with head-quarter office in Pittsburg; Jesse C., is a very prosperous wholesale flour merchant of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Victor W., is a large stockholder and the secretary and treasurer of The Colonial Pine Company of Pittsburg Pennsylvania, and Wilson, North Carolina. He is located and has charge of their mills at Wilson. The father gave all his sons a liberal education. Captain Stewart's wife died April 12, 1890. He married for his second wife, Mrs. Mary B. Peugh, the widow of Jesse Peugh, of Grand Rapids, Ohio. The present wife had two daughters when married to Captain Stewart, both of whom have since died.

HARRY W. ROBINSON.—One of the prime functions of this publication is to accord recognition to those who stand representative of the various fields of business activity, and one of those who adds materially to the prosperity of Greenspring, whose constantly expanding business is carried on along the most progressive lines, is Harry W. Robinson, engaged in the hay and grain business and owning and operating a grain elevator under the name of H. W. Robinson & Company. Mr. Robinson is an authority in the line he represents, and this has received general recognition in his elevation to the presidency of the Ohio Grain Association, while he is connected with various other organizations of a like nature. The possessor of inexhaustable information on the subject of the grains of the state and their commerce and gifted with native eloquence, he has made many notable addresses, and his reputation is national, rather than confined to the limits of the state.

Mr. Robinson was born on a farm in Seneca county, July 20, 1872, and is the son of Joseph and Mary (Watson) Robinson, both of whom were natives of the Buckeye state and of Seneca county. Henry Robinson, the subject's grandfather and who founded the family in America, was a native of Scotland, who left "the land o' cakes" when Joseph Robinson was a small boy, found his way to Ohio, and settled near Attica, this state. Mr. Robinson is thoroughly Scotch, for on the maternal side he also traces his descent to Caledonia, from whence the Watsons have come to America. Mr. Robinson's parents are successful farmers and large land holders, owning five hundred acres of valuable land near Rockaway. He is the oldest in a family of four children, the other members of the family being: C. G. R., of Greenspring; Dr. Rush Robinson, of Columbus, Ohio, and Alice M. Robinson.

Harry W. Robinson received his education of an elementary character in the district schools and afterward entered Heidelberg University, at Tiffin, where he took a classical course and was graduated with the class of 1895, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts. His first occupation was as an educator and in 1896

he was made principal of the Greenspring Academy, in which capacity he served for three years. In 1895 he was appointed school examiner by Judge Alexander Kiskadden, and was at that time the youngest person in the state to serve as such, his years being but twenty-three.

Subsequently Mr. Robinson turned his attention to the hay and grain business, in which he has achieved signal success. In 1900 he built the large elevator at this place and under his management the business is continually broadening in scope. Important as this industry may be Mr. Robinson does not confine himself to this, but is also president of the Robinson Kraut Company, of Greenspring, which was established in 1895 on the N. Y. C. & St. P. Railroad. This concern produces between fifteen and twenty thousand barrels yearly of White Line Kraut.

Mr. Robinson is one whose natural abilities fit him to take an active part in public affairs. For a number of years he has been an active member of the Hay Dealers' Association, having been a director since forming his first connection with this organization, and in 1909 he was elected to the presiding office. Also since June, 1909, he has held the office of president of the Ohio Grain Association. In short his affiliation extends to all the local and state grain associations, all of which are eager to possess the membership of a man of such thorough information.

Mr. Robinson is loyal to the policies and principles of "the grand old party" and has had some experience in the public life, but has never had political ambitions. He is an enthusiastic lodge man and finds much pleasure in his connection with the Masonic order. He belongs to the Blue lodge of Greenspring and to the chapter at Clyde. He also belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Greenspring and he holds membership in the Presbyterian church at Tiffin.

Mr. Robinson joined the Benedicts when on September 9, 1896, he was united in marriage to Grace Holtz, a daughter of C. D. Holtz, county commissioner of Seneca county. They have one child, a daughter named Marion, born November 16, 1900, and in attendance at the public schools of Greenspring.

S. LEROY GHASTER, the efficient and highly appreciated assistant postmaster of Fostoria, Seneca county, was born on a farm near that place, but in Hancock county, a son of Solomon and Mary (Fox) Ghaster, sturdy and progressive citizens and well known and respected farmers in this part of the state. Young Ghaster was reared to a knowledge of farming, and as a farmer's boy of all work he attended district schools whenever he could be spared from the labors of the place. His thirst for knowledge and his aptitude for study later brought him to the pursuit of a scientific course at the old Fostoria Academy, from which institution he was graduated at a comparatively early age in 1884. After leaving school he became a drug clerk and was employed as such three years, until he established a drug store which is now owned and operated by Cunningham & Pillars. Progressive, energetic and of excellent habits, he won well deserved success and eventual-

ly Mr. Cunningham became associated with him in business. This partnership enabled him to gratify a desire for the acquisition of a broader knowledge of his profession, and for a time he was a student in the medical department of the Western Reserve College of Cleveland. The demands of his business, however, prevented his graduation with the degree of M. D.

Mr. Ghaster married Miss Myra Wilson, who had for several years been popular at Fostoria as a school teacher, and they have a son, Karl L., who was born June 1, 1890, and who was graduated from the Fostoria High School with the class of 1908. Mrs. Ghaster is refined and cultured to an uncommon degree and is devoted to her home, where generous hospitality is dispensed. Besides his fine apartment house in Fostoria, Mr. Ghaster owns a large, well improved farm in Hancock county and a half interest in the good business structure in which the drug store before mentioned is located. The gradual accumulation of this and other property, including a fine cottage on Catawba Island, testifies to his success and marks him as a self made man of more than common ability.

Politically Mr. Ghaster is a staunch Republican. He has served as a member of the Republican County Central Committee of Seneca county and has been otherwise influential in public matters. Many of his fellow townsmen, regardless of political affiliation, frequently seek his counsel as to the management of affairs of local, county, state and even of national importance, and his views are appreciated and given much consideration because his fellow citizens respect him not only as a man of good attainments and sound judgment but as a man of the highest sense of honor. His obliging disposition and friendly manners have won for him many friends far beyond the limits of Fostoria or of Seneca county.

Mr. and Mrs. Ghaster are regular attendants upon the services of the Presbyterian church, of which organization he is a liberal supporter. Having taken an active interest in the ancient and beneficent order of Masons, he has risen in it to the thirty-second degree and is past commander of Fostoria Commandery, No. 62, Knights Templars and a charter member of Toledo Consistory. He is a member also of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a past noble grand of Lodge No. 305, of Fostoria.

JOHN A. SHRODES, proprietor of a livery establishment on East Market street, Tiffin, Ohio, ranks under the head of self made men. A brief review of his life is appropriate in this connection and is as follows:

John A. Shrodes was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, January 13, 1866, and until he was fifteen years old attended school during the winter months and in summer worked on his father's farm. His father was a veteran of the Civil war, having served from 1861 until the close of the conflict in 1865. He was overtaken by financial trouble when his son John A., was a youth of fifteen, which made it necessary for the young man to start out on his own responsibility. Familiar with farm work, young John





*John Schrodes*



naturally looked for a job of this kind when he left home. He worked on a farm and in a brick yard, and later turned his attention to the timber business and to teaming, and was thus occupied up to the time he was twenty-five. In the meantime he had come to Tiffin, where he had made many friends and acquaintances and was noted for his fine physique and his fearlessness. These qualities gained for him, in 1891, appointment on the police force, where he developed a character not only for fearlessness but also for uniform courteousness. He remained continuously on the police force until January, 1909, when he resigned in order to engage in business, and bought a meat market, which, however, he sold a short time later. Then he invested in the livery business on East Market street, which he is now conducting, having with him in business his son, Earl W.

In 1891 John A. Shrodes and Miss Dora Maxwell were united in marriage, and the only child of their union is Earl W., who was born in 1892. He is a graduate of the Tiffin High School and has spent some time at Heidelberg College.

Mr. Shrodes is a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and an associate member of the William Gibson Post, G. A. R. Politically he has always adhered to the teachings of the Republican party. Personally he is genial and courteous, honest and upright, and in every way is justly entitled to the high esteem in which he is held by the people among whom he has spent his life.

CHARLES E. PALMER.—A strong and noble character was that of the late Charles E. Palmer, who exerted an emphatic and beneficial influence in connection with business and civic affairs in Seneca county, who gained success through his individual ability and application and who ever stood exemplar of that integrity of purpose which figures as the plumb of character and invokes objective confidence and esteem. His strength was as the number of his days and he was summoned from the mortal life in the fullness of years and well earned honors, his death occurring in the city of Fostoria on the 26th of August, 1905.

Charles E. Palmer was born in Chester township, Geauga county, Ohio, on the 19th of June, 1838, and was a scion of one of the honored pioneer families of the historic old western reserve. He was a son of Chester and Achsa Palmer, who continued to reside in Geauga county until their death. Charles Palmer's first wife was Betsy Rising, who died four years after her marriage, and at her death left one daughter, Emma, now the wife of J. T. Jamison, of St. Joseph, Missouri.

Charles Palmer was reared to maturity on the home farm and early began to assist in its work, while in the meantime he availed himself of such advantages as were afforded in the common schools of the pioneer days. He supplemented this preliminary discipline by a course of study in Geauga Seminary, where he formed the acquaintance of Miss Mary Dickerman, who later became his wife and who survives him. As a young man, Mr. Palmer removed to the northwestern part of the state of Missouri, where he eventually



became the owner of large and valuable tracts of land, the greater portion of which was effectively developed under his supervision and direction. He was a resident of that state during the Civil war and his earnest support of the Union cause was indicated by his service in the state militia, which was subject to call into service at any time. He became one of the extensive farmers and stock growers of Missouri, where he continued to reside until 1876, when he exchanged his real estate interests for a number of barrel and stave factories in Michigan and Ohio, sixteen factories in all; he took up his residence in Fostoria, Ohio, and continued to maintain his home there until his death. The several factories were conducted under the title of the Dewey Stave Company, and he was secretary and treasurer of the company for a time, later becoming its president. He was also a most influential factor in connection with the development of the oil and gas industries in this section of the state and his operations were carried on upon an extensive scale. He was a man of pronounced constructive and administrative ability and through his well directed efforts along normal lines of enterprise he gained a large and substantial fortune. He was a staunch Republican in his political adherence, though never a seeker of public office, and gave a zealous support to the party cause. He was a member of the Columbia Club of Fostoria, was indented with various other social and fraternal organizations. He attended the Presbyterian church, of which his widow is a member.

On the 11th of February, 1864, in the city of Cleveland, Ohio was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Palmer to Miss Mary Dickerman, who was born at Masonville, New York, on the 15th of December, 1841, and who is a daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Ann (Ferry) Dickerman. Nathaniel Dickerman was born September 27, 1797 and died December 4, 1845. They came to Ohio when their daughter was a child and settled in Cleveland, Ohio, where she was reared to years of maturity. Her father was a farmer by occupation and both he and his wife passed the closing years of their lives in Cleveland. On July 8, 1855, Mrs. Dickerman married Erastus S. Stibbin, by whom she had no children. She died in July, 1859.

Mrs. Palmer was afforded the advantages of Geauga Seminary, a well conducted institution of the early days, and she is a woman of broad culture and most gracious presence, having been identified with the best social activities of Fostoria for many years. Here she is a valued member of various literary societies and her beautiful home at 252 West Tiffin street is a recognized center of gracious hospitality. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer became the parents of three daughters: Nellie, who is the wife of Marion Miller, of Toledo, Ohio; Gertrude Lillian, who died at the age of six years; and Mary E., who is the wife of John B. Rogers, of Fostoria.

The subject of this memoir left the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and his life and labors were prolific in good even as his character was moulded upon the most generous scale of integrity and honor.

AARON SEITZ.—We come now to the consideration of a man who by his own push and energy, by his own determination and tenacity has succeeded, and we regard with pleasure the work of recording the interesting events in his life of labor and of usefulness. These lines are written with the thought in mind that not all self styled self made men are truly self made. This memorial is here printed to convey to readers in ages to come something of the personal worth of this man, who by sheer force of good character has made a place for his name not only in the history of his township but in that of his county.

Mr. Seitz is one of the well known and representative farmers of Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, where he owns a fine farm of one hundred and fifty-six acres, on which he has lived since 1871. His farm is well cultivated, yielding abundant crops which year by year he turns into bankable wealth. It has fine and ample buildings, its machinery is strictly up-to-date and of the most highly efficient makes. His environments, taken as a whole, tell a story of work and of thrift that may be read by the swiftest passerby. The owner of this productive home was born in Bloom township March 12, 1844, a son of the Rev. Louis and Barbara K. Seitz, natives, respectively, of Fairfield county, Ohio, and of Virginia. He was reared on a farm and educated in common schools near his boyhood home. He deliberately chose the comparatively uneventful but almost always independent life of the American tiller of the soil. In the fall of 1864, when he was not yet twenty-one, he possessed a pair of gray colts and two dollars and fifty cents in money. Those, with health, good character, determination and invincible courage, were his capital in full; but with such a foundation for success he was the very one to build a splendid edifice of achievement. On October 4 of that year he married Miss Eliza Shock, daughter of Jacob and Lena Shock. Children were borne to him as follows: Irwin E., who married Rose E. Sponseller, who bore him four children, Louis D., Orlo J., Alvin H. and Herman D.; Alvin J., deceased; Mattie M.; and Myrtie B., who married A. Watson.

Except for two years Mr. Seitz has lived his life thus far in his native county. He and his wife and children are members of the Primitive Baptist church. He has been elected to the office of supervisor of his township and has performed its responsible duties with honor and distinction. He is a man of well developed public spirit who may be depended upon to do all in his power to advance any movement which in his good judgment promises benefit to any considerable number of fellow citizens.

Mrs. Aaron Seitz was born in Bloom township in 1842. Jacob Shock, her father, came to Seneca county among early settlers in 1832, and began his life there in a log cabin which is standing in good preservation on the farm of Mr. Seitz. He was a man of worth who exerted a good influence upon the community.

The Rev. Louis Seitz, father of Aaron Seitz, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio. He was pastor of the Honey Creek Primitive Baptist church for fifty-seven years. As a preacher he was powerful, a fearless exponent of the principles of his religious denomi-

nation. Intellectually he was rarely gifted. In thought he was deep and comprehensive, logical and searching. His flow of language was something remarkable, and he was so persuasive that he brought about many conversions. Besides preaching regularly to his own congregation he traveled beyond his own domain and ministered at times to other churches of his creed. Nor did the work of the preacher exhaust his activities. He was the owner of a large farm, the operation of which he superintended successfully. In the building up and maintenance of the Honey Creek Primitive Baptist church he was the chief factor and dependence. He was twice married, first to Barbara Kaga, a native born Virginian who came as a girl with her parents to Fairfield county, Ohio, where she met her future husband. She bore him children as follows: Catharine, Lydia, Elizabeth, John, Barbara, Hannah, Abraham, Louis, Aaron, Levina, Daniel and another who died in infancy. She died in 1848, and in 1851 Mr. Seitz married Mrs. Hershberger, a widow, who had the following named children by her former husband: Samuel G., Jonas M., John, Mattie and George. Mr. Seitz, who was born in 1802, died in 1890, in his eighty-eighth year.

ALBERT THORNTON.—The able and popular superintendent of the Fostoria union stockyards is one of the prominent and influential business men and liberal and public spirited citizens of Seneca county, where his standing is such as to particularly entitle him to representation in this publication. Mr. Thornton claims the "right little, tight little isle" of England as the place of his nativity. He was born at Gunthorpe, England, on the 4th of October, 1866, and is a son of Thomas and Annie Flockton Thornton, the former of whom still resides in England and the latter of whom is deceased. Albert Thornton was educated in the excellent schools of his native land, where he remained until 1881, when at the age of fourteen years he severed his home ties and set forth to seek his fortunes in America. He passed about one year on a farm in St. Joseph county, Michigan, and then removed to Manacelona, Antrim county, that state, where he was identified with a manufacturing enterprise for four years, at the expiration of which, in 1888, he came to Fostoria, Ohio, and secured a position in the freight and baggage department of the Hocking Valley Railroad Company. There his fidelity and effective service won him promotion through the various official positions until he became the local ticket and freight agent for the company. He continued as one of the valued employes of this corporation until 1897, when he accepted his present position as superintendent of the Fostoria union stockyards. He has done much to forward the success of the important enterprise with which he is thus identified, and his personal popularity is of the most unequivocal type. He is a staunch Republican in his political proclivities and he served five years as a member of the board of education of Fostoria. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Fostoria and he is one of its trustees. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 288, Free and Accepted Masons;



Garfield Chapter, No. 150, Royal Arch Masons; and Fostoria Commandery, No. 62, Knights Templars. At the present time he is president of the city civil service commission. He is a man of able and progressive ideas and has shown a deep interest in all that has touched the welfare of his home city, where his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances.

On the 19th of March, 1887, Mr. Thornton was united in marriage to Miss Clara E. Vogel song, who was born and reared in Fostoria, and they became the parents of two children, Arthur R. and Ethel M., both of whom remain at the parental home. Mrs. Thornton was summoned to the life eternal on the 24th of May, 1900, and on the 11th of June, 1902, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Thornton to Miss Ollie Green, of Fostoria. They have one child, Ellen A. Arthur R. Thornton is now in the employ of the Hocking Valley Railroad Company and Ethel M. was graduated in the Fostoria High School as a member of the class of 1910.

EDWARD L. YALE, who is the present superintendent of the Seneca county infirmary, was born in Pennsylvania, October 8, 1859, a son of T. H. and Mary (Peters) Yale. His father was a general business man of ability. Neither of his parents came to Ohio, both of them dying in their native state. The younger Yale was educated in public schools in the Keystone state, where he remained until he was about eighteen years of age. He came to Seneca county in 1881 and was for about a year employed on the farm of J. W. Payne in Thompson township. Later he found employment as a clerk in a store. In 1883 he opened a butcher's shop in Lodi, Ohio, and there he remained for twelve years, keeping a butcher's shop, running a hotel and farming. In 1903 he was appointed superintendent of the Seneca county infirmary, filling the position with much credit for one year. From the time that he gave up that responsibility to March 18, 1907, he was superintendent of the Central Delivery at Tiffin. At the date last mentioned, under a new appointment, he again became superintendent of the Seneca county infirmary, which position he has held with great success up to this time.

The infirmary farm covers two hundred and fifty-three acres and in 1910 produced 5,500 bushels of corn, 1,281 bushels of oats and 1,050 bushels of wheat. Sufficient truck and vegetables were raised to supply the institution. At the present writing the institution affords a home for seventy-three people, but the number of inmates always increases as winter comes on. There are all comforts, such as steam heat and the like. Since Mr. Yale assumed the superintendency of the institution there has been a material change in its management and all of a beneficial character. His brother, William H. Young and his wife, are assistant superintendent and matron, while the position of foreman of the farm and the rest are taken by the inmates. In politics Mr. Yale is a Democrat. He has been active in politics and was for four years assessor of taxes for Reed township. He is one of Seneca county's real estate owners.

Mr. Yale married April 30, 1882, Miss Ida V. Yundt, a native

of Pennsylvania, who was brought when but four years of age to Seneca county by her parents. To their union has been born a son and a daughter. Lillian H. is a graduate of the high school at Tiffin and is a teacher in the public schools at Kansas, Ohio. Noble B., ten years of age, is in school. Brief as is this story of the busy and useful career of Mr. Yale, there may be read between the lines a deeper, more absorbing story of the struggles and successes of a self made man. There is another lesson to be drawn from his life. He has prospered because he has deserved prosperity. He has given generously of himself and his means for the general good and something has been given back to him. Mr. and Mrs. Yale are members of the Evangelical church.

Mrs. Yale's father, William Henry Harrison Yundt, was born in Pennsylvania, attended the common schools of that state, and followed farming, his father, however, being the keeper of a hotel. This was in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Mr. Yundt married Elizabeth High, who was a native of the same county. The children born to them are as follows: Ida Virginia, wife of Mr. Yale; Emma L., deceased; Horace Allen, who married Virgie Ott and resides in Thompson township, Seneca county; Mirah June, who married Jessie Hetrick and resides in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania; Barton Damrel, who married Clara Heminger and resides in Scipio township; Eliza N., deceased. After coming to Ohio Mrs. Yale's father engaged in agriculture.

REV. FRANCIS L. HULTGEN.—St. Joseph's church of Tiffin is indeed fortunate in having for its pastor a clergyman of the high attainments of the Rev. Francis L. Hultgen, his labors here in the past seven years having been of the most enlightened and devoted character and productive of remarkable growth in the church. Rev. Father Hultgen was born in Lorraine, France, April 3, 1864, his father, John Hultgen, who died in 1886, being a member of the body guard of Napoleon III. Father Hultgen studied the classics in the gymnasium at Metz and philosophy at Luxemburg. He came to America in 1885 and entered St. Mary's Theological Seminary in the city of Cleveland Ohio. He was ordained by Bishop Gilmour on December 19, 1889, and was appointed pastor of St. Mary's church at Kirby, Wyandot county. Soon after taking charge of the parish at Kirby he laid plans for a new church edifice. The corner stone was laid on June 22, 1890, and the dedication took place on November 17, 1891. The successful carrying out of this undertaking within two years of the time Father Hultgen took charge of the parish was evidence of the zeal and ability of the young priest as a leader and organizer. In all that he undertook at Kirby for the upbuilding of every interest of religion he had the hearty support of his parishioners and the generous co-operation of the non-Catholic people of the community. Father Hultgen's labors at Kirby covered a period of thirteen years and three months. On March 17, 1903, he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's church, Tiffin.

Father Hultgen is a profound scholar and a man of many accomplishments. He speaks and writes French and German as

fluently as he does English, and he also knows Italian, possessing that linguistic ability that is so seldom the heritage of the American. He has a thorough knowledge of music and his musical gift and ability is constantly employed in the services and ceremonies of the church.

ANDREW FRANKENFIELD.—Seneca county is noted for its well cultivated farms; its comfortable rural homes and its commodious and sightly farm buildings. Comfort and prosperity, independence and wealth are everywhere in evidence, and nowhere more conspicuously than on the premises of Andrew Frankenfield, of Bloom township. He owns not only this beautiful homestead but other lands, all in Bloom township, aggregating four hundred and thirty-one acres. His line of crops is mixed, but of superior yield and quality. Like many another self made man Mr. Frankenfield began at the very bottom of the ladder, to use a familiar and expressive phrase, and by industry and economy made his way permanently to the top. He was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, May 18, 1838, was reared on a farm and educated in the common school, that bulwark of American civilization. Before leaving school he had definitely determined to be a farmer. His parents moved to Crawford county, Ohio, in 1848. They came to Seneca county soon afterward, however, and there, in 1864, Andrew Frankenfield married Miss Mary M. Shock. For two years after that happy event he worked by the month for his uncle at low wages. Later he worked a farm on shares; still later he rented another; and in 1864 he moved to his father's farm, where he lived fifteen years. In 1889 he bought his original farm of one hundred and thirty acres, to which he has added by other purchases. To say that he is a progressive farmer would not be doing him full justice. He is a thoroughly modern farmer, up-to-date in every sense of the word—the kind of farmer that cuts free from old things that retard his progress and goes forward to the success of today by the best and most direct ways.

The writer is enabled to make some brief mention of Mr. Frankenfield's children. William married Miss Ella Shock and has two children, Floyd and Ruth Frankenfield. James has not married, John married Emma Bishop and has two children, Karl and Norma Frankenfield. Jacob married Blanche Wax. Ellen is the widow of Charles Heinsicker and has a son, Charles Heinsicker Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Frankenfield and their children are members of the Reformed church. He and his brother William are the only members of his father's family living in Seneca county. He is a son of Andrew and Rebecca Frankenfield, natives of Northampton county, Pennsylvania, who came to Seneca county in 1848, after a brief stop in Crawford county. Here they bought and improved a farm of eighty acres, on which they lived out their allotted days and died honored by all who had known them. Their children were named Andrew, William, Thomas, Asher, Polly, Rebecca and Elizabeth. Polly is dead.



CLARENCE E. FRANKLIN.—Numbered among the representative business men and highly esteemed citizens of Fostoria is Mr. Franklin, who is here superintendent and manager of the Western Railway Signal Company, one of the important industrial concerns of Seneca county and who has served as a member of the city council of Fostoria. He was born in Richmond township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 11th of April, 1849, and is a son of Edmond and Henrietta (Thomas) Franklin, the latter of whom is now deceased and the former of whom is still living at the age of eighty-four years. Mr. Franklin gave valliant service as a member of an Ohio regiment in the Civil war and is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He now resides at Chicago Junction, Ohio.

C. E. Franklin was reared on the home farm in Huron county, and was afforded the advantages of the common schools of the locality. In his native county, in the year, 1885, he was united in marriage to Miss Lou Richards, and they are the parents of five children: Claude, Maude A., Robert, Glenn and Wilber, all of whom remain at the parental home except Claude. Mrs. Lou Franklin was the only child of John and Maggie Richards. She was born October 22, 1867, at Fostoria, Ohio. Her father died in 1869 and later the mother and daughter moved to Huron county, Ohio, and Mrs. Franklin obtained her education in the vicinity. Her mother still survives at the age of sixty-five years, living with her daughter, Mrs. Franklin. Claude married Miss Eva Robinett and is now foreman of the Seneca county plant of the Torpedo Manufacturing Company, of which his father is superintendent.

After retiring from agricultural pursuits the subject of this sketch was employed as railroad fireman and later he was in the employ of the Harter Milling Company of Fostoria. In 1888 he was appointed manager and superintendent of the Western Railway Signal Company, which is engaged in the manufacture of railroad fusees and torpedoes, and he has since continued incumbent of this responsible position. By reason of his father's service in the Civil war he is an associate member of Norris Post, No. 27, Grand Army of the Republic in Fostoria. In politics he is a stanch advocate of the principles of the Republican party and he served one term as representative of the Second ward in the city council. Both he and his wife are most earnest and zealous members of the United Brethren church and they are actively identified with the various departments of church work in their home city. He is a member of the board of trustees of the local church and also is a valiant and honored teacher in its Sunday school.

GEORGE M. ZELLNER, a prosperous and prominent farmer, owns two hundred and thirty acres of valuable and productive land in Bloom township and sixty acres in Scipio township, Seneca county. He acquired this land not by gift, not by conquest and not by "smart" dealing, but by honest purchase with money dearly earned by hard work. Beginning life as a poor boy, he welcomed any honest task however hard and applied himself to its performance with all his energy and determination, pushing forward on the journey of life unappalled by obstacles, undaunted by temporary defeat, till he won success and a competency.



Edmund



Mrs. Franklin





Mr. Zellner was born in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, in 1847, was brought up as a farmer's boy of all work and was educated in the common schools of Crawford county, Ohio, where his parents made their home from the year 1854. He learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it with success fourteen years. Then he took up farming. His first purchase of land was of thirty acres. To this he added as he was able and as opportunity presented till he is now one of the large land owners of his township. He married Miss Catharine Englert, January 13, 1878. She was a daughter of Peter and Elizabeth Englert and was born in Seneca county in 1854. Her parents came over from Germany about 1847. She has borne her husband children as follows: Cyrus, who is dead; Samuel A., Benjamin F., Philip P., Maggie L., Florence B., William H., Harrison C., Earl R. and Pearl M., twins; and Hattie M. Samuel A. married Miss Ada Shaefer, to whom two children were born, Vitus A. and Luella C. Florence is the wife of F. Barrick.

Phillip and Catharine (Gross) Zellner were born in Pennsylvania, he in Lehigh county, she in Northampton county. They were married in their native state and about 1853 moved to Crawford county, Ohio, where they bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, on which they lived till 1890, when Mr. Zellner died. His children were born in the order in which they are here named: Edwin, Benjamin, George M., Alfred, Henry W., William H., Isabel C. and Sarah A. Alfred, Isabel C. and Sarah A. are dead. Edwin was a soldier in the Federal army in the Civil war. George M., the immediate subject of this notice, is the only member of his father's family living in Seneca county. He is a man of public spirit who has at heart the welfare of his township and of the county at large and who may be depended on to do all in his power to promote any measure which in his good judgment promises to advance the interests of any considerable number of his fellow citizens.

E. D. REIDEL.—In this busy and progressive world, it is a man's actions, not his words, that proclaim what manner of man he is. He is judged by deeds, not by talk. We are pleased to put on record something of the busy and useful life of E. D. Reidel, of Bloomville, Seneca county, Ohio, who by the exercise of his energy, enterprise and public spirit, has done as much as any one for the development and betterment of Bloom township.

Mr. Reidel was born in Crawford county, Ohio, July 11, 1840, a son of Anthony and Harriet Reidel, natives of Columbiana county, Ohio, and he had brothers and sisters named as follows: August, who is a veteran of the Civil war; Caroline; Albert; Augusta; Oscar and Herman. He was reared on a farm and educated in common schools. Practically all his life has been devoted to agricultural pursuits and to the breeding of fine stock. A natural bent for mechanics led him to become interested in machinery, particularly such as is connected with farming, and buying a thresher he devoted much of his time for many years to threshing and became well known as a thresher in all the country round about his home.

In 1880 he moved to Seneca county, Ohio. There he settled and labored diligently, managing intelligently, and in time was able to buy a farm. Then he retired from threshing, selling his excellent facilities in that line to his son Frank. In 1901 he bought the farm in Bloom township on which he has since lived. Mr. Reidel married Miss Mary Fussle, who bore him two sons, Wilson and Frank Reidel. His present wife was Miss Mary Dove.

JOHN W. WEISENAUER.—The United States ranks today as the foremost nation of the modern civilized world. It has served as the "melting pot" of the best characteristics of all other nations and the outcome is a fine sterling American citizenship consisting of strong, able bodied men, loyal and public spirited in civic life, broad minded and honorable in business, and alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with every measure tending to further the material welfare of the entire country. The empire of Germany has contributed its fair quota to the upbuilding of this great nation and among its representatives in this country are to be found successful men in every walk of life from the prosperous farmer to the learned professions.

Of sturdy German stock, Mr. John W. Weisenauer was born in Crawford county, Ohio, on the 1st of April, 1873, and he is a son of John and Mary (Gwinner) Weisenauer, the former of whom was a native of Bavaria, Germany, where his birth occurred on the 22nd of May, 1832, and the latter of whom was born in Lykens township, Crawford county, Ohio, on the 5th of January, 1837. John Weisenauer was a son of William Weisenauer, of Bavaria, and he emigrated to the United States in 1853, when a young man of about twenty-one years of age. He first settled in Galion, this state, where he followed with success his trade of a shoe maker, which he had learned in the old fatherland. From Galion he moved to Chatfield, whence he later removed to Lykens, Crawford county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of valuable farm land, upon which he resided for a period of thirty-eight years. At Chatfield, on the 27th of March, 1856, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary Gwinner and they became the parents of ten children, namely: Jacob, Susan, Flora, John W., Della, Otto, Laura, Caroline (deceased), Mary and Emma. In 1876 John and Mary Weisenauer became members of the Freewill Baptist church, in the parish of Rev. J. B. Lash, and they were most earnest and active workers in connection with the charities of the same up to the time of their demise. John Weisenauer may be designated as a worthy Christian in the truest and broadest sense of the term, his motto being the Golden Rule, which he practiced and enforced in all the relations of life. He was a very highly educated man, as a Bible student and otherwise, and in politics he gave an uncompromising support to the cause of the Democratic party. He was honored and loved by his fellow men, who showed their high appreciation of his many fine qualities by bestowing upon him various public offices of trust, which he filled with all of efficiency and ability. Mrs. Mary (Gwinner) Weisenauer was summoned to the

life eternal on the 13th of April, 1900, at the age of sixty-three years, and John Weisenauer passed away on the 9th of September, 1908, at the venerable age of seventy-six years. He lived to welcome into this world thirty-two grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

John W. Weisenauer, the immediate subject of this review, was the fourth in order of birth of the ten children of John and Mary Weisenauer and he was reared to the sturdy discipline of the old home farm, his early educational advantages being those afforded in the public schools of his native county, which were supplemented by private instructions of his father. In 1900 he entered the university at Ada, Ohio. Later he completed a commercial course in this institution. That he put his scholastic attainments to good use needs no further voucher when it is stated that he was a most successful and popular teacher in Crawford county for a period of nine years. In 1902, however, he severed his connection with the pedagogic profession and initiated operations as a farmer, becoming the owner of a finely improved estate of eighty acres in Seneca county. He is a stalwart Democrat in his political proclivities and has ever accorded a staunch support of all movements projected for the welfare of the community. Both he and his wife are devout members of the Evangelical church and in a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

In 1907 he was united in marriage to Miss Ona Oberlander, who likewise claims the good old Buckeye state as the place of her nativity, her birth having occurred in Crawford county, on the 1st of January, 1877. She is a daughter of Henry J. and Mary J. (Feltie) Oberlander, representative citizens of Tiffin, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Weisenauer are the parents of two children, Alma R. and Mary M.

ISAAC NEWTON HOSSLER is numbered among the representative exponents of the great basic industry of agriculture in his native county and is the owner of a well improved farm in Bloom township. He is a man of strong individuality and has ever commanded the unqualified confidence and esteem of the people of the community in which he has maintained his home from the time of his nativity.

Isaac Newton Hossler was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, on the 12th of December, 1852, and is a son of Jacob and Anna (Funk) Hossler, who were numbered among the sterling pioneers of Seneca county. Jacob Hossler was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, in 1806, and the old homestead farm of the family is within the battle ground of Gettysburg. The wife of Jacob Hossler was born in Stark county, Ohio, on the 19th of June, 1814, and her parents were numbered among the early citizens of that section of the state, where they took up their abode before Ohio was admitted to the union. Jacob Hossler came with his parents to Ohio in 1821 and the family located in Stark county. In 1834 he came to Seneca county and established his home in Bloom township, where he developed a productive farm. His

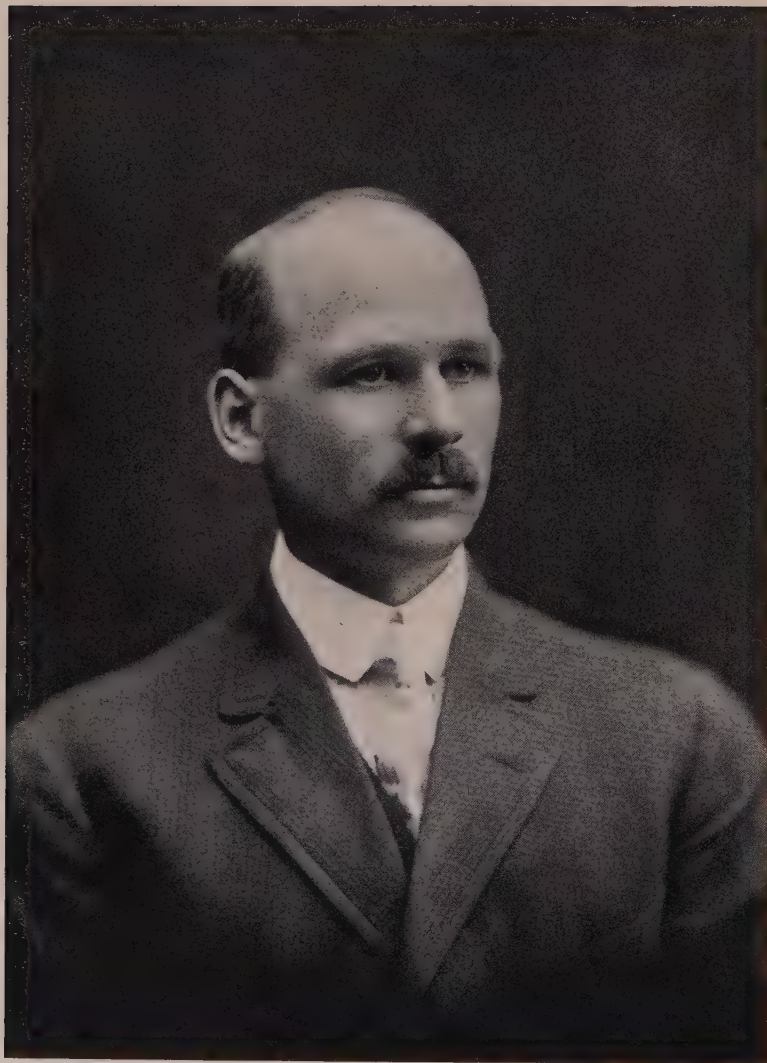


marriage to Miss Anna Funk was solemnized on the 23d of September, 1830, and of their sixteen children, eleven attained to years of maturity. In 1866 Mr. Hossler removed to Bloomville, where he continued to reside until his death, and he was one of the prominent and influential citizens of Seneca county. He served for nearly a quarter of a century as a justice of the peace and he also held the office of mayor of Bloomville. Here he also served four years as postmaster, under the administration of President Grant, and he was called upon to serve in other local offices of public trust. He was summoned to the life eternal on the 5th of March, 1896, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away in 1891. In 1890 they celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage. They were numbered among the honored pioneers of the county and were held in unqualified confidence and esteem by all who knew them. At the time of his death Jacob Hossler was the owner of a landed estate of three hundred and twenty acres and he contributed in generous measure to the development of the agricultural industry of Seneca county. He was a son of Frederick Hossler, who was born in the state of Pennsylvania, in 1782, and who was a son of John G. Hossler, a representative of one of the pioneer families of the old Keystone state, where he was born in 1758. John G. Hossler was a son of Michael J. Hossler, who was born in Alsace, France, now a German province, and he emigrated to America and established his home in Pennsylvania in 1754. He married Magdelene Koltriter, who was born in October, 1782, and who died in Stark county, Ohio, on the 3rd of August, 1857. John G. Hossler was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Ramer on the 25th of January, 1779, and they established their home in what is now Adams county, Pennsylvania, where Mrs. Hossler was born in the year 1761.

Isaac N. Hossler was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and he has never wavered in his allegiance to the industry of agriculture, in connection with which he has achieved distinctive success. After availing himself of the advantages of the district schools he continued his studies in an academy at Republic, Seneca county. After his first marriage Mr. Hossler assumed charge of the farm of his father-in-law, in Bloom township, and he continued to manage the same for eight years, at the expiration of which he returned to the old homestead of his parents, where he continued to be successfully identified with general farming and stock raising for the ensuing eight years, at the expiration of which he secured his present place, known as the John Briner farm in 1890. This estate comprises seventy-eight acres and the improvements upon the same are of the best modern type, including a commodious and attractive residence.

In politics Mr. Hossler has ever given an unqualified allegiance to the Republican party and he has maintained a distinctively progressive and public spirited attitude. He has been called upon to serve in various offices of local trust, including those of township trustee and township assessor, and in 1900 he served as census enumerator of his township. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and they enjoy unequivocal popularity in their home community.





*J. B. Veikins*



Mr. Hossler has been twice married. On the 18th of March, 1875, was solemnized his union to Miss Susan Rivert, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, and who was a daughter of Michael and Magdelene Rivert. Mrs. Hossler was summoned to the life eternal on the 24th of March, 1894, and of her eight children, seven are now living: Alfonso, Gertrude, Jessie, Jay R., Arthur L., Robert E. and Ray M. Alfonso married Miss Delle Shutt; Jay R., married Miss Bertha Klaiss; and Jessie E., is the wife of Charles Valentine. On the 22nd of April, 1900, Mr. Hossler contracted a second marriage, being then united to Mrs. Amanda (Seigley) Davis, who was born and reared in Seneca county, Ohio, and who is a daughter of the late Benjamin Seigley. At the time of her second marriage she was the widow of John C. Davis, and the mother of his five children: Lola, now Mrs. H. V. Biddison; William, who married Lucretia Gulick, and lives at Cleveland; Jesse J., who married Bertha Ohls and is living in Bloom township; Fred B., who married Cora Caris and lives in Bloomville; and Lizzie, unmarried and at home. No children have been born of the second marriage of Mr. Hossler.

IRVING B. NEIKIRK.—Few men play as prominent and praiseworthy a part in the civic and banking affairs of Republic as Irving B. Neikirk, cashier of the Republic Banking Company and a native of the township which at present claims his residence. The Neikirk name is one of the best known in Seneca county, and he whose name initiates this paragraph is one of its worthiest representatives. He was born in Scipio township, August 30, 1873, and is the son of Jeremiah and Anna (Bookholt) Neikirk, his parents being natives of this county. The mother's parents were Germans and typical of that fine stock which has furnished to the United States one of its most valuable sources of immigration. John Henry Bookholt, her father, came to the land of the stars and stripes in 1817 and located in Scipio at the age of twenty-one. He worked for others for six years then bought a farm, cleared it and brought it to a high state of cultivation. At the age of twenty-five he married Mrs. Bering and they had five children, Catherine, Susan, Ann, David and Mary. Susan and Mary are deceased. Mr. Bookholt was a Democrat and a member of the Reformed church. He died at the age of fifty-three. The paternal grandparents, Jacob and Catherine (Sommers) Neikirk, were Maryland people who came westward to Ohio at a very early day, probably in the early '20s, and entered land which they cleared and made into one of the fertile and productive farms which have ever been the very bone and sinew of the Buckeye state. They also built a tavern, which they called the Neikirk House, located two and one-half miles north of Republic, on the Kilburn Road, and which the grandfather conducted for a number of years. He died in the year 1872.

Jeremiah Neikirk, father of Irving B., was born June 26, 1838, and resided with his parents until his marriage in the year 1868. He engaged independently in farming after that date and in saw milling and he also owned and operated a threshing machine in this section for about a score of years. He is now retired and

resides in Republic, where in leisure he enjoys the fruits of his previous industry and thrift. The maternal grandparents, Henry and Barbara Bookholt, after crossing the Atlantic located in Scipio township on land which they secured and afterward cleared and improved, and it was here that the birth of the subject's mother occurred on March 8, 1849.

Mr. Neikirk has had the advantages of a good education, receiving his preliminary training in the public schools and subsequently attending the university at Ada, Ohio, which has been the alma mater of a number of the Buckeye state's prominent men. He was graduated from that institution with the class of 1897, in the scientific department, and in 1900 finished a course in law. He hung out his shingle at Muncie, Indiana, and there for some time engaged in the practice of his profession. He subsequently engaged in railroad work in Indiana and came thence to Republic, where he engaged in the banking business, his duties as cashier of the Republic Banking Company having extended over a period of five years. His efficiency is proven and he enjoys the confidence of those with whom he is associated.

The bank was first opened as a private bank, under the management of A. J. Solomon, but after about twelve months it was incorporated as a state bank with an authorized capital of twenty-five thousand dollars on December 8, 1906. Deposits have increased about forty per cent each year since the organization, and the bank now has a time lock safe and safety vault. It also carries daylight and night burglar insurance and conducts a regular banking business. The president of the bank is J. H. Knapp, the cashier, I. B. Neikirk; the vice president, J. W. Cook, and the directors are J. H. Knapp, J. W. Cook, D. D. Helsinger, J. Neikirk, William Baker, A. J. Neikirk and A. Kistler.

Mr. Neikirk joined the ranks of the Benedicts on November 27, 1900, being united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Nettie C. Burnside. She is a native of this county, having been born near Tiffin, Clinton township, February 14, 1875, and her parents being John and Matilda (Litzenberger) Burnside, natives of Seneca county. Mr. Burnside was born July 14, 1839, and his wife was born in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, May 24, 1843. They are the parents of seven children, five daughters and two sons, as follows: Eva, born July 23, 1870; Ida, December 22, 1871; Ada, August 13, 1873; Nettie, February 14, 1875; Minnie, February 3, 1877; Arlie J., May 22, 1881; and Ralph D., January 28, 1886.

Mr. Neikirk is a prominent Mason, belonging to the chapter and council in Tiffin, Ohio, and at the present date holding the master's chair. He and his wife are consistent members of the Lutheran church and his political sympathies are with the Democratic party. He has served in public office from time to time, and has been a member of the township and village council and also the school board.

Mr. Neikirk comes of a family of two children, his brother Lester J. being a farmer and residing on the old homestead place three and one half miles northeast of Republic, Ohio.

OLA J. SPONSELLER.—Ensnconced on the old homestead farm on which he was born and reared, Ola J. Sponseller is successfully engaged in diversified agriculture in Seneca county, and he is a descendant of one of the sterling pioneer families of the Buckeye state, his great-grandfather, John Sponseller, having emigrated to Stark county, Ohio, when the city of Canton contained but a few houses. He was born in the state of Pennsylvania, whence he removed to Ohio, and his marriage to Miss Catherine Harpster, a native of Pennsylvania, was solemnized in Canton. They became the parents of eight children, of which number John, Frederick and Catherine (Mrs. Isaac Zellers) resided in Seneca county. Mr. and Mrs. John Sponseller were residents of Columbiana county at the time of their death. He died in 1873, at the age of eighty-five years, and she passed away at the patriarchal age of ninety-three years. Frederick Sponseller, grandfather of him whose name introduces this article, was born in Stark county, Ohio, on the 11th of November, 1815, and on the 12th of February, 1840, he was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Prouse, whose birth also occurred in Stark county, the date of the same being September 13, 1818. She was the daughter of William and Hannah (Dock) Prouse, natives of Pennsylvania, who removed to Stark county, Ohio where the former died in 1872 and the latter, in 1879, aged eighty-three and seventy-eight years respectively. After their marriage Frederick and Elizabeth Sponseller established their home in Bloom county, where they cleared and improved a farm of two hundred and forty acres. They reared a family of eight children, namely: William, John, Phillip, Abraham, Elisha, David, Levi and Hannah C., all of whom were reared in the faith of their parents, that of the Lutheran church. Levi Sponseller next to the youngest of the above children, was born in Seneca county, in April, 1853, and he availed himself of the advantages of the public schools of his native county. Like his ancestors he engaged in agricultural pursuits and at the time of his death he was the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred acres in Bloom township. He married Miss Elmira Lichtenwelter, of Crawford county, and they became the parents of the following named children: Myrtie M., (deceased), Ola J., Ora F. A., Orby G., Floyd R. (deceased), Maud P. (deceased), Lottie E., Ray L., Walter D., Mabel F. and Doyle V. He was a stanch Democrat in his political proclivities and held membership in the Methodist Protestant church, of which his widow is a devout member. His death occurred on the 26th of July, 1905, and his cherished and devoted wife, who survives him, still maintains her home on the old homestead farm, which is under the general supervision of her oldest son, Ola J., to whom this sketch is dedicated.

Ola J. Sponseller was born on the fine farm on which he now makes his home on the 5th of December, 1877. His early educational discipline was that afforded in the common schools of Bloom township and he has been identified with the great basic industry of agriculture since his early youth. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Protestant church, and in the time honored Masonic fraternity he is affiliated with Attica Lodge, No.



367, Free and Accepted Masons. In politics he gives a staunch allegiance to the Democratic party, and though never a seeker of public office he is a loyal and public spirited citizen and is a liberal supporter of all measures projected for the advancement of the general welfare of the community.

In 1904 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Ludena Hartman, who was born in Van Wert county, Ohio, and who is a daughter of George J. and Emeline (Bowers) Hartman, former representative citizens of Van Wert county, Ohio. Mr. Hartman died March 26, 1891, and Mrs. Hartman now resides in Toledo, Ohio.

DAVID A. DELLINGER.—The men who succeed in any enterprise in life, the generals who win their spurs on the field of battle, the financiers who amass wealth, all are the men who have confidence in themselves and the courage of their convictions. There is a time in every man's education when he reaches the conclusion that envy is ignorance, that imitation is suicide and that though the world is alive with opportunity nothing comes to him without self reliance and toil of mind or body, or both. The man who trusts himself and who plays well his part on the stage of life is a success. A strong and sterling character is like an acrostic, read it forward or backward or across, it still spells the same thing: "There is no success like the success that succeeds;" and David A. Dellinger, the subject of this brief review, has made of success not an accident but the diametrical result of his own well directed efforts. He is one of the prominent business men of Bloomville, Seneca county, where for a number of years past he has been actively engaged in the shipping of live stock, hay and wool.

Mr. Dellinger was born in Crawford county, Ohio, on the 15th of April, 1859, and is a son of John and Maria (Leister) Dellinger. The mother died September 9, 1902, but the father is yet living, a resident of Sycamore, Ohio, and although eighty-three years of age he is still actively engaged in business. The subject of this sketch was reared to the age of fifteen years in his native county, where he received his rudimentary educational training in the common schools, which was supplemented by a course at Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, this state. After some time spent at this well ordered institution in 1876 he put his scholastic attainments to good use by engaging in the pedagogic profession, which he followed with marked success and popularity for a number of years. In 1881, however, he entered into partnership with his father, who was an extensive shipper at Sycamore, Ohio, and later his brother James was admitted to the company, which did business under the firm name of Dellinger & Sons, with headquarters at Bloomville. This mutually agreeable alliance continued from 1881 to 1896, in which latter year the father withdrew from the concern and thereafter the enterprise was carried on under the old name until 1908, when James also withdrew. David A. Dellinger then admitted his son, Lloyd A., as a partner and the business has since been conducted under the title of Dellinger & Son. They have inspired and injected new life into and throughout the business, and their markets now embrace many commercial centers of the United States. Aside

from his business as a shipper Mr. Dellinger has other financial interests of important order. He is connected with some of the leading industries of the county, having large interests in the Sterling Emery Wheel Works and the Seneca Company, two progressive manufacturing concerns located at Tiffin. He is also the owner of a well improved seventy acre farm, a part of which lies in the incorporated limits of Bloomville. All his business transactions have been notable for their unquestioned fairness and integrity.

In politics Mr. Dellinger usually accords allegiance to the cause of the Republican party but always puts principle and measure above men or party. At the present time he is one of the school directors of Bloomville. He is alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with all measures and enterprises projected for the advancement of the general welfare of the community and his charity has known only the bounds of his opportunities. He is an appreciative member of the time honored Masonic fraternity, in which his affiliations are here noted: Eden Lodge, No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he has served as worshipful master; Seneca Chapter, No. 42, Royal Arch Masons, of Tiffin; De Molay Commandery, No. 9, Knights Templars; and Clinton Council, No. 47, Royal and Select Masters.

On the 21st of October, 1880, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Dellinger to Miss Ellen Kagy, who was the daughter of Elijah and Susan (Rife) Kagy, of Bloom township. To this union were born two sons, Lloyd A. and Earl C., both of whom were graduated in the Bloomville High School, after which the former pursued a business course in Oberlin, Ohio. Earl C. was fitting himself for electrical engineering and was a student at the Ohio State University when he was summoned to eternal rest, in 1905. Lloyd A., who is now associated with his father in the shipping business, as already noted, married Miss Margaret McKinzie of Bloomville, April 10, 1905. The mother died in 1889, at Bloomville. In 1890 Mr. Dellinger was united in marriage to Miss Mary H. Seiple, a daughter of Jacob and Lydia (Seitz) Seiple. She was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, and prior to her marriage was a popular and successful teacher in the Bloom township and Bloomville schools. She is a woman of most gracious personality and is a prominent factor in connection with the best social activities of the community. She is a member of the "No Name Club," of Bloomville, which was organized in 1894 with a limited membership of twenty-five women, its object being intellectual and moral improvement. Mrs. Dellinger is also affiliated with the Order of the Eastern Star, in which she served for two years as Worthy Matron. Mr. and Mrs. Dellinger are the parents of two sons, Harold A. and David D., both of whom are now attending school in Bloomville.

PERRY T. PERIN—Five generations of the family of this prominent citizen of Seneca county have living representatives at the time this work is in preparation. Perry T. Perin is a son of William T. and Eunice (Grover) Perin. His grandfather in the paternal line was Willard Perin who was born May 9, 1811. In order to

secure his eight acre farm near Greenspring, Seneca county, Willard went on foot to Bucyrus, Ohio, about fifty miles away, and returned by the same hard mode of travel, his round trip embracing a hundred miles through the woods, across streams, over the poorest excuses for roads and by blazed routes over no roads at all. When he got back, his entire cash capital was ten cents, not a large sum for a start in a new country among strangers, his nearest neighbor two miles distant. In that unpromising location, amid many almost unsurmountable difficulties, he cleared and improved a place which he developed into one of the finest truck farms in its vicinity. It consists of eighty acres and is now owned and operated by William T. Perin, son of Willard Perin and father of Perry T. Perin.

William T. Perin was born May 7, 1837, on his father's farm. He was educated in district schools of the pioneer type. The first that he attended was taught by his Aunt Bloomy, who received fifty cents a week and boarded around among the families of her pupils. Later she received seventy-five cents a week and boarded with her mother. The price allowed by the district to her mother for board was certainly not liberal. The district in question is now known as district number eleven of Green Creek township, Sandusky county. Its arrangements with teachers now are less primitive and more liberal. Mr. Perin attended the district schools until he was eighteen, and then went to Greenspring where he attended school for two years. Leaving school, he farmed on his father's farm until he was twenty-three, when he married. Eunice Grover became his wife, their union being celebrated September 12, 1857. Six children were born to them. Perry T., born May 11, 1858; Willard, August 4, 1861; Lucy M., May 25, 1863; Fanny C., April 1, 1865; Frank W., February 19, 1867; Burt, June 17, 1869.

William T. Perin, after his marriage, removed to Van Buren county, Michigan, where he purchased forty acres upon which he built a log cabin and here he resided six years. At one time in the first part of his residence in Michigan he was forced to grate corn on an old tin lantern in order to secure meal for the family, preferring to do this rather than contract debt. He lost two of his brothers, Henry and Fernando, Henry being killed by a violent accident with a thrashing machine and Fernando dying with cholera morbus. After these sad events he sold his interests and removed to Sandusky county, where he has continued to reside.

In the maternal line Perry T. Perin's grandparents were Trueman and Catherine Grover, the latter now residing with the subject's mother at the advanced age of ninety-two years. Mr. Perin's mother is seventy-five years of age. Catherine Grover was born at Schenectady, New York, October 5, 1818, a daughter of Conrad and Margaret (Swartz) McEntosh, who came to Ohio in 1833 and located near Clyde. In October of that year Mr. Swartz bought eighty acres on the Clyde road, two miles southeast of Clyde, where he built two log cabins and reared a family of nine children, Catherine, Hannah, Sarah, Mary E., Susan M., Narcissa M., Isabella J., John and Margaret E. The McEntosh family came in 1826. Catherine and Trueman Grover were married March



12, 1834. He was born March 13, 1809, and died in 1900. They had eight children: Eunice, mother of Perry T. Perin, born December 10, 1835; Milo, August 20, 1837; Frank, June 12, 1839; Enos, October 21, 1841; Ransom, March 3, 1843; Margaret, March 5, 1848; Malvina, May 27, 1851; Ellen, February 17, 1856.

Mr. Perin was married September 8, 1881, at Tiffin. The lady of his choice, Minerva E. Young, is the youngest child and only daughter of the ten children of Charles and Mary (Spangler) Young, natives of Germany. For interesting family history the family is invited to see sketches of Josiah and A. R. Young, elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Perin has borne four children. Leo is a member of the firm of Schuster & Perin, shippers of fruits and farm products at Greenspring. He has shipped over two hundred cars of cabbage and several thousand bushels of potatoes. He was born August 11, 1882. Roy, born February 3, 1888, is manager of his father's grocery and general store. He was married September 6, 1910, to Miss Gladys Hahn. Her father, J. W. Hahn, is editor of the *Greenspring Echo*, and formerly he was associated with his father, Fred Hahn, in operating a tannery. Mrs. Gladys (Hahn) Perin is the only child of her parents, who have resided in Greenspring and vicinity for thirty years. This young woman was bookkeeper for the local telephone company and in addition to those duties, gave music lessons and saved her wages and out of the wages of herself and her husband they were able to purchase an attractive eight room cottage and to furnish the same in excellent style. Their courtship began in school days, dating almost from childhood. Lotia, the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Perin, was born September 17, 1890, and her death occurred January 21, 1904. She was drowned and her death was mourned by all who had known her, for with old and young she was a general favorite. Some of the circumstances of the death of this admirable and loveable child were very remarkable, particularly those which showed that she had a premonition of her coming fate. She had her own room, furnished to suit her young fancy and hanging upon the wall was a calendar. The January leaf was uppermost and around the date "21" she had taken her pencil and marked, saying as she did so, "I wonder what is going to happen on that date." Later she learned that Professor Zeis' little son had been accidentally drowned and she then remarked that she too, would meet her death in a similar way. On January 21, the creek—Flag Run—which runs close to the school house was swollen with heavy rains and a piece of timber lay across the creek. At noon Lotia watched two other girls cross on this improvised bridge and thought that she too could cross. She attempted this, but missed her footing and fell in and it was at least two hours before her body was recovered. Thus was wiped out in untimely fashion, a young life of exceptional promise. Her parents keep her room just as it was when she left it for the last time, clothing, the calendar, and the rest, having never been disturbed. Reynor G., the youngest child, was born June 12, 1906. Mrs. Perin's parents were members of St. Jacob's Reformed church.

Mr. Perin upon removing to Greenspring engaged in market  
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gardening for fourteen years and has been in the grocery business since 1895. He is one of the promoters of the Greenspring telephone line and is a director in the company controlling it. He was a prominent member also of the committee which had its construction in charge. He is recognized as a friend of the village, one of its upbuilders, greeting all with words of encouragement, helping substantially, whenever practicable and possible. He is a Mason and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, as well as of the Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Perin is prominent in connection with the Order of the Eastern Star. The Perins' is a beautiful home in the western suburbs of the town, situated upon sixteen acres of very valuable land, which Mr. Perin has put out in garden truck of various kinds. He has served as councilman and for years has been connected with the schools. For seven years he was clerk of the Adams township board of education and he is also treasurer of Adams township. By virtue of changes in laws governing, Mr. Perin retains all three offices.

CHARLES BRUSH.—The history of Seneca county and its worthy citizens is honored by including within its pages the ensuing autobiographical sketch from the memory of Charles Brush, one of the oldest and most venerable of the remaining pioneers whose dauntless struggles with the difficulties of the new country made possible the present high state of development. He is within four years of attaining to the remarkable distinction of being a centenarian, and is still in the possession of all his faculties, and is held securely in the affections of a host of friends.

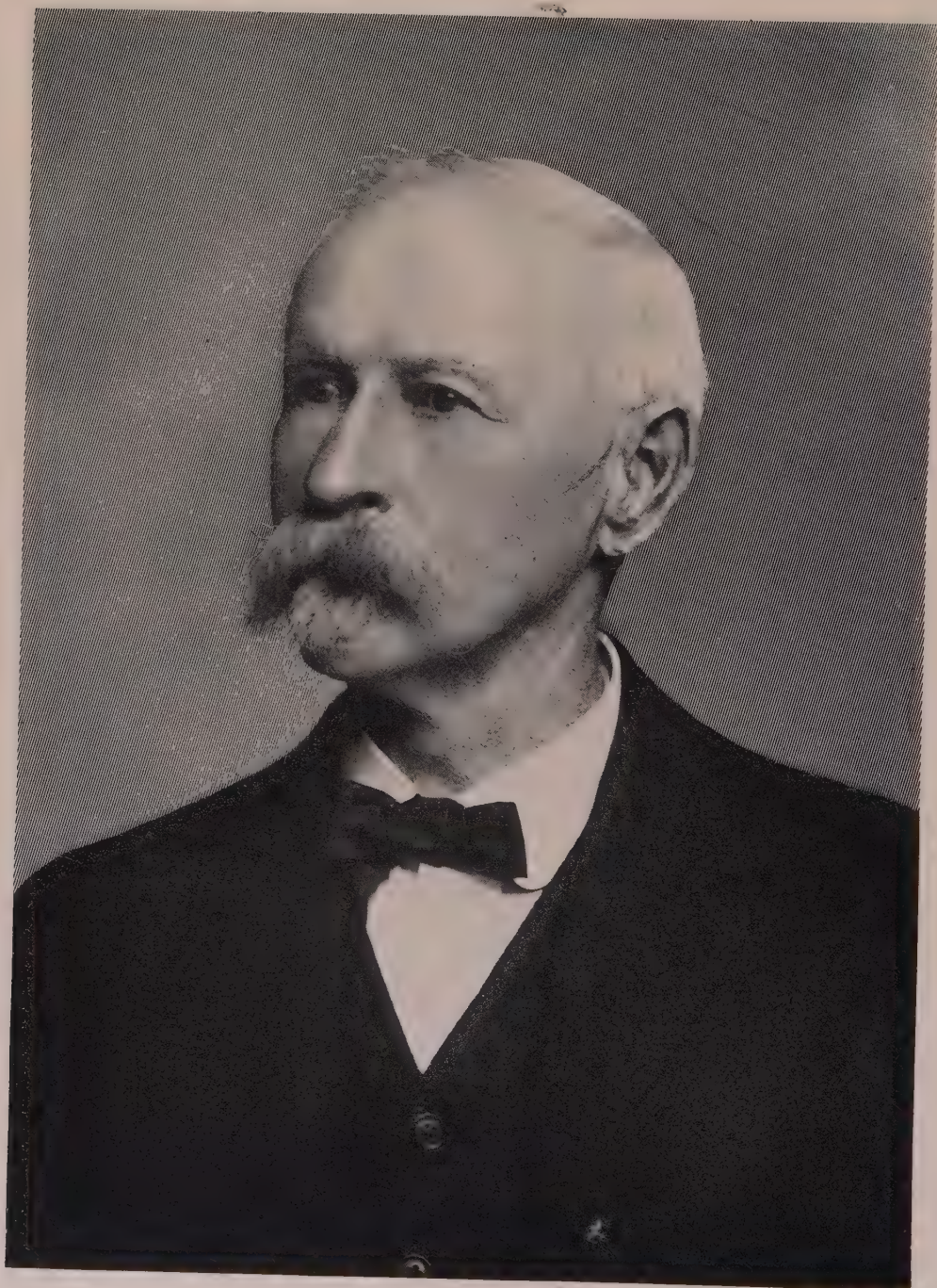
"I was born in Great Bend, Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, March 30, 1816. My parents were Charles and Armida (Waller) Brush. My grandfather, Jonas Brush, was a Revolutionary soldier and he was wounded in the service. Although he entered the ranks as a private, at the close of the war between the Mother Country and the Colonies he had been advanced to the captaincy of a company of men. Three of my grandmother's brothers and two of her brothers-in-law were killed in the Wyoming Massacre, which occurred on July 3, 1778. I remember seeing an old history of the massacre and also a history of Susquehanna county, which was formerly a part of Luzerne county, where the massacre occurred. My grandmother's maiden name was Weeks.

"My father moved from Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, to Gates county, New York, when I was in my fourteenth year, and we went to Ohio in the year 1833. There were no railroads and we made the journey over very bad roads and during very bad weather. When we finally arrived in the Buckeye state we located on fifty-five acres of government land in Green Creek township, section 28, which adjoins my present farm. A road had been laid out there in 1834. We bought a cheap yoke of oxen for thirty-five dollars and a cow for twelve dollars, five dollars cash down and the balance on time, for our funds ran out, and built a rude log house, the door and chimney not being built in until the arrival of warm weather.

"In 1834 my father built the Stem mill race from Sulphur







*J. D. Halsey*

Springs to where the mill now stands, the present site of the sanatorium being covered with heavy timber, and not far away was the place where the Indians had been wont to raise their corn. There were at that date but three loghouses in Stem Town, now called Greenspring. One belonged to Daniel H. Dana, father of George Dana of Fremont, and the store was kept in his cabin. The others belonged to Bishop Adams and James Watrous. At Hammer Corners, now Clyde, William Hammer kept tavern, and a man named Turk kept a store there, he dying subsequently with cholera. William McPherson, father of General James McPherson, conducted a blacksmith shop and there was a school house. In the year 1833 Mrs. Chase taught school there. She afterward became Mrs. Slocum. My wife was one of her pupils and I have heard her say that the teacher was the grandmother of General McPherson.

"In the spring of 1836 my father died at the age of forty-six years, I being twenty years old at the time, and my sisters ranging from three to thirteen years younger than myself, the youngest being only a little past seven. We were in something of a dilemma, with the head of the house taken away and five hundred miles from any of our relatives. When our friends in the east heard of our misfortune they urged us to come back, offering to pay our way, and to come or send for us. My mother, who had a great deal of pride and fortitude, talked it over with me and we decided to stay in the new country. In the fall of 1836 Mr. Stem built the mill and engaged me to build one hundred and fifty dollars worth of road east of it, which it is needless to say, helped us out very much. In the year 1849 Mr. Stem, Hiram Hurd and myself undertook the job of clearing seventeen acres of heavy timber, the former using the logs for the construction of his mill. That fall, when the presidential election occurred, I voted for William Henry Harrison, and in 1856 I voted for John C. Fremont.

"I was married in 1856 to Hannah Swartz and until that time my mother kept up the home, I providing for the same. Mother died in 1881, on her ninety-first birthday.

"You will believe me when I say that there have been a great many changes in my time. For instance I have ridden in an ox cart, the best conveyance to be had in its time; and I have covered the miles in an automobile. Is there not some contrast? And there are many other contrasts just as startling.

Charles Brush."

JOHN D. WILSEY.—For nearly two score years Mr. Wilsey has maintained his home in Bloomville, and here he was long identified with industrial interests, though at the present time he is living virtually retired. Mr. Wilsey claims the old Empire state of the Union as the place of his nativity, as he was born near Binghamton, Broome county, New York, on the 9th of November, 1828, and he is a son of Tunis and Nancy A. (Lukin) Wilsey, representatives of families that settled in the state of New York in the pioneer days. Mr. Wilsey was afforded the advantages of the common schools of the locality and period and as a young man he engaged in the manufacturing of boat oars and fork and shovel



handles. With this line of enterprise he continued to be identified for more than half a century, having first established himself in this line of business in Erie county, Pennsylvania, and later, about 1863, in Ohio. He built up a large and substantial business as a manufacturer and continued to be actively identified with the same until 1894, when he turned the business over to his son, Frank D. Wilsey, who has since continued the same with unqualified success. The son has a well equipped mill in Stryker, Williams county, Ohio, as well as one in the state of Mississippi and two in Arkansas. Frank D. Wilsey has well maintained the prestige of the honored name which he bears and is known as a careful and competent business man, having been thoroughly trained in the line of enterprise with which he is identified and having been associated with his father in the same from his youthful days. His official headquarters are maintained in the city of New York, which is the distributing point of his business. The subject of this review initiated his manufacturing business in his native state, from which he eventually removed to Pennsylvania, where he remained until 1863, when he came to Ohio and located in Defiance county, this state. He later established himself in business in Williams county, which continued to be his home for a decade and at the expiration of the same, in 1873, he removed to Bloomville, which has represented his home during the long intervening years. He gained precedence as one of the leading business men of this attractive village and is at the present time one of its venerable and highly honored citizens, having directed his energies along normal lines of enterprise and having ordered his course upon the highest plane of integrity and honor. He built up in this place a large and important industrial enterprise, in connection with which he gave employment to about fifty men, while the products of his factory found sale throughout the Union, as well as in foreign countries. In connection with his business he established his distributing headquarters in New York city and his son has successfully continued the business which he founded in Bloomville nearly forty years ago. His attractive residence is located on a small farm contiguous to the village, and here he is enjoying that well earned repose and comfort which are the just rewards of earnest toil and endeavor. Mr. Wilsey has been essentially loyal and public spirited as a citizen and has given his support to all measures and enterprises tending to advance the general welfare of the community. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party and he is affiliated with Eden Lodge, No. 310, Free and Accepted Masons.

In the year 1854, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wilsey to Miss Calfurnia Otis, who was born near Detroit, Michigan, and who was a child of six years at the time of her parents' removal to the state of New York, where they remained for a period of six years, at the expiration of which the family home was established in Erie county, Pennsylvania, where her marriage was solemnized. Mr. and Mrs. Wilsey became the parents of six children, namely: Jay F., Frank D., Ora P., John H., Helen B. and



Gladys. Helen B. is a trained nurse and is engaged in the work of her profession in New York city; Frank D. is associated with his father in business, as noted; and Gladys remains at the parental home.

WILLIAM D. HECKERT.—The present city treasurer of Fostoria has here maintained his home since 1891 and he is recognized as one of the substantial and reliable business men of Seneca county, where he commands the high regard of all who know him. Mr. Heckert is a native son of the Buckeye state within whose borders his parents took up their abode many years ago. He was born at Leesville Crossroads, Crawford county, Ohio, on the 18th of April, 1872, and is a son of B. Franklin and Louisa (Groh) Heckert, both of whom were descendants of staunch Pennsylvanian German stock. The parental ancestors in Pennsylvania were of Hessian and Hanovarian extraction and settled in that state in pioneer days. The father of the subject of this review was a gallant soldier in Company K, Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and was promoted to the office of corporal. He was variously engaged during his active business career and he passed the closing years of his life in Crawford county, Ohio. He is survived by two children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the elder and May is the wife of Charles D. Hoyt, of Cleveland, Ohio. The mother of William D. Heckert, Mrs. D. M. Mitchell, resides at Galion, Ohio.

William D. Heckert passed the first six years of his life in his native county and then accompanied his parents to the state of Iowa, where he received the advantages of the public schools of the village of Wheatland and that he made good use of the opportunities thus afforded him is evident when the statement is made that he secured a teacher's license before he had attained the age of sixteen years. After teaching school a short time in Crawford county, Ohio, he secured employment in a stone quarry, in connection with the operation of which he finally won promotion to the position of bookkeeper. After the death of his father he was reared in the home of his maternal grandfather, John Groh. He was enabled to advance his educational status by a course in Otterbein College, at Westerville, Ohio. In 1891, Mr. Heckert located at Fostoria, where he became bookkeeper and timekeeper for Harry C. Karg, who was a leading contractor of this place. Later he entered the employ of the First National Bank, with which institution he continued to be identified for twelve years. In 1900 he purchased a half interest in the business conducted by the firm of Emerine & Berrenger and in 1903 he became the sole owner of the business, which he has since conducted with marked success.

In politics Mr. Heckert is a staunch supporter of the principles and politics for which the Democratic party stands sponsor and he has been called upon to serve in local offices of distinctive public trust and ability. In 1907 he was elected city treasurer of Fostoria and the estimate placed upon his administration of the fiscal affairs of the city was shown as his election as his own successor in 1909. His second term expires in January, 1912.

On the 17th of May, 1910, he received the nomination of his party for the office of county treasurer and in the ensuing election he was elected to the office. He has said to his constituents, "I have tried to deserve your vote and will try as hard to win your praise while in office," and his sincerity is evident. He served as chairman of the Democratic executive committee of Seneca county in 1908-9 and he has given yeoman service in support of the cause of his party. For two years he was secretary of the Fostoria board of trade, during which time local business was greatly revived.

Mr. Heckert has attained to the thirty-second degree in the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Masonic fraternity and he is treasurer of both Fostoria Lodge No. 288, F. & A. M., and Fostoria Chapter, No. 150, R. A. M., and a member of Fostoria Commandery, Knights Templars. He is also affiliated with the I. O. O. F., Woodmen, Knights of Pythias, the Knights of the Maccabees and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The University Club of Fostoria also claims his membership. By reason of his father's service in the Civil war he has been honored with associate membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. He also is identified with the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics. Both he and his wife are communicants of the Protestant Episcopal church and are active in the work of the parish of Fostoria, Ohio, in which the subject has served as a member of the vestry.

On the 15th of January, 1896, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Heckert to Miss Laura A. Florian, who was born and reared in Fostoria and who is a daughter of Joseph Florian, one of the representative citizens of Seneca county. Mr. and Mrs. Heckert have two children: Helen L., who was born on the 20th of July, 1897, and Otto E., born on the 8th of February, 1900.

Mr. Heckert is secretary of the Temple Company, a company organized to erect a new three story business block at Fostoria. He will probably take up his residence at Tiffin, Ohio, about September 1, 1911.

WILLIAM HOLTZ EGBERT is one of Pleasant township's representative and estimable citizens; a farmer of advanced ideas; a man of excellent education; and the descendant of one of the doughty early pioneers of Seneca county. He was born December 19, 1865, in Pleasant township, thus being a native son of that community in which his interests are centered. His parents, Norman D. and Susan C. (Holtz) Egbert, were likewise natives of this county, and his paternal grandparents were Jeremiah W. and Lucy (Rule) Egbert. The former was born near Lancaster and the latter in this county. The great-grandparents, Uriah and Susannah (Williams) Egbert were of northern New Jersey and Pennsylvania, respectively. They came to Seneca county in 1823 and settled primarily near Tiffin, but eventually became the owners of a tract of land, which is still in the family, one of Mr. Egbert's brothers now residing upon the old homestead in Pleasant township.

The Egberts are first heard of in America in the Dutch settlements on Staten Island about 1663. Govert and Barent Egbert

were either brothers or cousins and they now have hundreds of descendants in many of the states. Govert is called a Dutchman and taxable in an old document of 1685. The dates of the birth and death of his son Tunis are unknown but he had a son James who was born in 1695 and who married Catharine Denny, who bore him a son John, born in 1722. John had a large family, one of whom was James, born in 1759. He married Sarah Smith in Henderson county, New Jersey and two of their sons, David and Uriah, came to Seneca county, Ohio in 1823 and bought land from the government. David soon moved to Hancock county and there and in Wood county his descendants still live. Uriah's family was very large and at present there are nine households of the name in Seneca county.

The mother of William Holtz Egbert, whose maiden name was Susan C. Holtz, was a daughter of William and Catherine (Cramer) Holtz, natives of Frederick county, Maryland, a section of the country which furnished a good many early settlers to Seneca county. They came here in 1834 and located in Pleasant township a little later. The Rule family, that of Mr. Egbert's paternal grandmother, were among the early settlers in this part of Ohio and none were more highly respected or played a more praiseworthy part in the many-sided life of the community. Norman D. Egbert served two enlistments in the Civil war, and was a private in the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry and a lieutenant in the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth.

As before suggested William Holtz Egbert enjoyed the advantages of a good education. He attended in boyhood the White Hall school in Clinton township and he afterward entered Heidelberg College at Tiffin and was graduated with the class of 1884. Having finished his education Mr. Egbert taught several terms of school in Ohio, Kansas, Minnesota and North Dakota. He believed, however, that a more congenial and independent field of endeavor was presented by that of agriculture, in which so many of his forbears had engaged with entire success. His eighty acre farm in Pleasant township is a good home and a hospitable one. Mr. Egbert is a Republican in his political convictions, but never took an active part in politics.

The marriage of Mr. Egbert was celebrated January 2, 1894, Miss Mary L. VonBlon, daughter of John and Catherine VonBlon, becoming his wife. She was born November 19, 1872, in this county. Philip VonBlon, her great-grandfather, a native of Rhenish Bavaria, was the founder of the family in America and he was the first president of the German Reformed church in Tiffin. The names of Mrs. Egbert's father and mother were John and Catherine (Staib) VonBlon and their birth dates were February 3, 1842, and February 2, 1845, respectively. John VonBlon was a soldier in the Union army at the time of the Rebellion. He enlisted in Indiana and was wounded at Nashville upon the occasion of Hood's defeat. He served in Company A, Eleventh Indiana Cavalry, under Colonel Stuart and Captain LaFlesh. The paternal grandfather was Jacob VonBlon, who was born in Waldmor, Rhenish Bavaria, and came to this country when young, and he



married Nancy Wagner, a native of the Keystone state. The maternal grandparents were Lewis and Catherine (Emich) Staib, natives of Wurtemberg, Germany. Mrs. Egbert finished her education at Heidelberg College in Tiffin and has taught school in this county. She is a valued member of the Reformed church of Tiffin. Her only brother, John L. VonBlon, is one of the editors of the Los Angeles (California) *Times*. To the subject and his wife have been born three children, all daughters. Julia, born May 30, 1896, died in infancy; Hilda, born February 4, 1898; and Frieda, December 13, 1909.

He whose name initiates this article is one of a family of four children, the others being Knott C., now located in the state of Oregon, where he has a position in the Indian schools, was educated at Heidelberg, at the Ohio State University and at Cornell University; Norman D. is a farmer on the old homestead in Pleasant township, Seneca county; Frances is the wife of Thomas Crabill and resides on the farm with her parents.

JOHN H. LENNARTZ.—By a continuous devotion to the demands of his official position, with an ability equal to its responsibilities and an integrity that has never deviated from the true line of duty, the career of John H. Lennartz, of Tiffin, as auditor of Seneca county, has been one of usefulness and honor. A native of Ohio, he was born, May 23, 1863, near Fort Recovery, Mercer county, and was there reared and educated. His father emigrated from Germany to this country when young, bringing with him the habits of industry native to his sturdy German ancestors. Locating permanently in Ohio, he is still a resident of this state and one of its successful agriculturists. He married Sarah Weaver, who was born in Pennsylvania, where her ancestors settled on coming to America, about 1700. Mr. Lennartz comes of patriotic stock, his great-grandfather, John Weaver, having served in the Revolutionary war under General Washington. An active participant in many engagements of that struggle for independence, he was killed at the battle of Long Island, and in grateful memory of his heroic services the United States government erected over his grave at Long Island a stone, which is now, in 1910, standing.

Trained to habits of industry, John H. Lennartz began when a boy to help his father on the farm, and assisted in clearing a sixty-acre tract of woodland, working during the summer seasons, but attending school during the winter terms until sixteen years old in his home district. The ensuing two years he worked on the farm during seed time and harvest, but in the winter seasons continued his studies at the village school in Fort Recovery. At the age of eighteen years Mr. Lennartz taught his first term of school, and being an ambitious student gradually worked his way upward in his profession, becoming an efficient and popular instructor. At the age of twenty-four years he had the misfortune to become partially deaf, an affliction that changed all of his pre-arranged plans for a professional career. Being forced to hustle for himself he came to Tiffin in 1883, and, still laboring under the disadvantage of partial deafness, worked at whatever labor he could find.

In 1885 Auditor Stoner, late of Tiffin, becoming aware of Mr. Lennartz's fine scholarship and clerical proficiency, secured for him a position as clerk in the office of the county auditor. Serving most ably and faithfully, he retained the position until 1892, working under Auditor J. A. Norton. In 1893 Mr. Lennartz, an ardent Democrat, was removed from office on account of his political faith. In 1898 he was appointed deputy auditor, and served in that position under both Lee Nighswander and R. R. Bour, auditors.

Announcing his name for county auditor in 1908, Mr. Lennartz was nominated by a large majority over his opponents, and was elected by a majority of two thousand and four votes, the largest majority ever given to a county auditor in Seneca county, and he is now serving his first term in this important public office. A man of untiring energy, prompt and punctual in the discharge of his duties, Mr. Lennartz is always to be found at his post of duty, and by his faithfulness to the interests of the tax-payers he has endeared himself to the people, regardless of party affiliations. Straightforward in all his dealings, high-principled and conscientious, Mr. Lennartz would willingly lose all that he possesses rather than defraud any one of a single cent, and to this prominent trait of his character he attributes all of his success, his strict honesty being known and recognized by his associates and by the general public. Kind, thoughtful and benevolent, Mr. Lennartz has generously made use of his means to promote the welfare of those of limited means, and has taken especial pleasure in aiding poor children to obtain a good education. His many benefactions are bestowed unostentatiously, the needy and unfortunate never going from him empty-handed after he has heard their appeal. Mr. Lennartz is an associate member of the Grand Army of the Republic and belongs to Saint Joseph's Catholic church.

Mr. and Mrs. Lennartz have one child, Irene, a bright and interesting girl of twelve years, and an adopted daughter, Emma, wife of Christ Hartman, of Tiffin.

HON. JOHN C. ROYER.—Judge Royer was born on his father's farm in Thompson township, this county, on the 6th day of May, 1856. His father was Samuel Royer, a son of John Royer, Sr., and his mother was Mary Ann Royer, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Bunn. Mr. Royer remained with his parents on their farm until September, 1874, when he entered Heidelberg College at Tiffin. At college he pursued his studies in the classical course and graduated from that institution in June, 1879. After leaving college he took up the study of law with Hon. N. L. Brewer, of the Tiffin bar. In January, 1880, he entered the office of his uncle, Judge J. F. Bunn, who was then probate judge of Seneca county, and there continued his studies until October, 1881, when he was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of the state.

After his admission to the bar Judge Royer formed a partnership with the late Judge Rickenbaugh, under the firm name of Royer & Rickenbaugh. This partnership continued until the summer of 1885, when Mr. Royer formed a partnership with Judge Bunn, under the firm name of Bunn & Royer. In April, 1883, Mr.

Royer was elected mayor of the city of Tiffin, his opponent being the late General William H. Gibson, and in 1885 he was re-elected for a second term. In 1887, shortly after the expiration of his second term as mayor of Tiffin, Mr. Royer was elected probate judge, to fill the unexpired term of the late Judge Harrison Noble, and also for a full term. In 1890 he was reelected for a second term. In 1894, at the expiration of his second term as probate judge, he again took up the practice of his profession, and has continued it ever since, being now associated with Calvin D. Spitler under the firm name of Royer & Spitler. In 1899 Judge Royer was elected state senator for the Thirty-first Senatorial District of Ohio, and in 1901 he was reelected. At neither election when a candidate for state senator did he have any opposition.

Judge Royer was married on the 11th day of April, 1883, to Clara Baltzell, a daughter of Thomas and Caroline Baltzell (Souder Baltzell). To them were born three children, namely, Helen Royer Martin, the wife of W. W. Martin, professor of Latin and history in the Friends School of Baltimore, Maryland; Mallie Royer and Clara Lucile Royer, the latter two living with their father. Mrs. Royer died on the 22d day of June, 1889.

Judge Royer is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, in which he has attained the degree of a Knight Templar. He has been a member of the Board of Education of the city of Tiffin for ten years continuously, and for nine years he has been president of the Board. He has also been a member of the Board of Regents of Heidelberg University for the last twelve years, and for nearly all of that time has been the secretary of the board.

JAMES H. KNAPP.—A native son of the fine old Empire state of the Union, James H. Knapp was born in Putnam county, New York, on the 12th of July, 1842, a son of Gilbert and Cinthia (Chase) Knapp, both of whom were likewise born in New York, the former on the 16th of January, 1821, and the latter on the 6th of June, 1820. Mr. and Mrs. Knapp emigrated from New York to Ohio about the year 1848, and they located in Erie county, where the father engaged in the great basic industry of agriculture. Mr. Knapp was summoned to the life eternal in 1894 and his wife, who long survived him, passed away on the 11th of April, 1910. They became the parents of three children, and of the number James H. is the first in order of birth. He was but six years of age at the time of his parents' removal to Ohio and he was reared and educated in Erie county. He also pursued a course of study in the Seneca county Academy, at Republic, and that he put his scholastic attainments to good practical use is evident when it is stated that he taught school in Erie county for a number of terms, having received his certificate in 1863. In 1864 he was in the one hundred days' service in the Civil war, much of his duty being around the city of Washington. In 1869 he established his home in Seneca county as superintendent of a farm of Daniel Brown, to whose daughter he was later married. He continued as manager of this fine farm in Scipio township until he became the owner of it, in 1872, and he has there maintained his home during the long intervening years to the present time.





*Samuel H. Knapp*



*Samuel H. Knapp*



In politics Mr. Knapp is aligned as a stalwart supporter of the principles of the Republican party and he has held office as county commissioner for one term. In 1880 he was elected to the office of township trustee and continued to serve in this capacity for several terms. Aside from the management of his finely improved farm of three hundred acres he is an interested principal in the Republic Banking Company, which was founded in 1906, and of which he is now the able and popular president. This substantial financial institution was incorporated with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars and its other officers are: John W. Cook, vice president, and I. B. Neikirk, cashier. Both he and his wife are devout members of the Universal church, to whose charities and benevolences he has been a liberal contributor.

On October 12, 1870, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Knapp to Mrs. Johanna Crissel, who is a daughter of Daniel and Sallie A. (Chase) Brown. She was born in Putnam county, New York, and when but three years of age accompanied her parents to Seneca county. They located on a tract of land on the Killborn road and the father proceeded to reclaim a farm from the virgin forest. He cleared his land and built a fine house but in 1851 he sold this farm and purchased another on Killborn road, near Republic. Mr. Brown was a member of the state legislature during the session of 1844-5 and he served as coroner of Seneca county for several terms. He was originally a Democrat but about 1850 transferred his political faith to the Republican party. Mr. Brown was born in 1800 and his death occurred on the 26th of March, 1872. Mrs. Brown was born on the 19th of October, 1813, and was summoned to eternal rest January 26, 1896. They were both loyal and public spirited citizens and were highly respected and beloved by all who knew them. Mrs. Knapp received her education in the common schools of Seneca county and this discipline was later supplemented by a course of study in the academy conducted by Aaron Schuyler and T. W. Harvey. By her marriage to Mr. Crissel Mrs. Knapp became the mother of two children, Daniel B., who was born on the 16th of June, 1852, is now engaged in the coal business in Republic; and Frederick B., who was born on the 16th of January, 1856, remains at the parental home.

EMANUEL GOOD.—A representative citizen whose usefulness is by no means confined to the circle of his own interests is Emanuel Good, a farmer of modern ideas and one of the widely known men of Thompson township. He has been identified in an especially happy manner with the cause of education and has the distinction to have outlined the present excellent school system for the township. In the year 1898, there being no prescribed system, he took the matter up with the board, who asked him to present a plan. After mature consideration he did this, his ideas meeting with general favor, and as a result the system promulgated by him is now in use.

Mr. Good was born March 26, 1869, his eyes first opening to the light of day upon the very scenes amid which have been played the various events of his life. His parents were Emanuel and



Catherine (Bunn) Good, natives of Pennsylvania. The father came to Ohio in company with his parents, Adam and Mary M. (Musselman) Good, the former born in Northumberland, Pennsylvania, May 8, 1798, and the birthdate of the latter was January 8, 1815. The great-grandparents were George and Elizabeth (Hammel) Good, natives of the Keystone state, whose remains are interred in the cemetery at Troxelville, Snyder county, Pennsylvania.

When Adam Good came to Ohio there were broken paths and trails where now many a wide road winds, and there were still existing many of the difficulties which had beset the earliest pioneers. In the year 1833 he took up a three hundred and twenty acre tract of land from the government and proceeded to build a cabin upon it. After the log walls were up and the roof surmounted them it was necessary to make use of grubbing hoes to remove the hazel brush before it could be occupied. In this humble abode a family of twelve children were born and most of them were reared to maturity within its walls. Mary, David and Susan died in infancy and the names of the remaining nine were Hannah, Emanuel, John, George, Polly, Betsy, Adam, Lucy Ann and Harriet. The head of the house was a member of the Reformed church and was active in establishing it.

The subject's father, Emanuel Good, resided with his parents until the death of the father on January 26, 1845, and even after the demise of the elder the son continued to conduct the affairs of the homestead. In 1849 he took as his wife Catherine Bunn, born August 27, 1832, her parents being Jacob and Elizabeth (Leiter) Bunn, Pennsylvanians, who cast their fortunes with the Buckeye state about the year 1835 or 1836, making their location near Bellevue in Thompson township. Jacob Bunn was a carpenter by trade. Emanuel Good and his wife became the parents of fourteen children. Elizabeth married Martin Sherk and is the mother of four children, as follows: David, Charles, Professor John and Stella. The second daughter, Catherine, became the wife of George Noel and their children are named: Cloyd, Vertie, Jennie, Elva, Norma, Ralph and Violet. Lucy Ann became the wife of John Smith and has four children, named Warren, Myrtie, Cora and Ernie. Flora is the wife of Elmer Miller and has two children, Rilla and Erma. William B. married Sadie Cosier and has one daughter, named Beulah. Rev. George W. Good, pastor of the Reform church of Fremont, Sandusky county, was recently elected vice-president of Heidelberg College at Tiffin. He married Hazel Bolus. D. A. married Hattie Brownfield. Minnie is the wife of Edward Wood and is the mother of two boys, named Harold and Laurel. Four children died when very young.

Emanuel Good Sr. was a man of influence in the community and served in township office, having been trustee and land appraiser and a member of the school board for a number of years. He resigned from the latter office on account of increasing age and debility.

Emanuel Good Jr., whose name initiates this article, received his education in the district schools, supplementing this with a

course in Heidelberg College. In his young manhood he taught school for a time both preceding and following his marriage, and subsequently took up the management of the farm. He owns one of the eighty acre tracts of the old homestead. On March 14, 1900, Mr. Good laid the foundation of a happy married life by his union with Anna Dunn, daughter of Dr. Dunn and his wife Kate (Shaffener) Dunn, of Tiffin, her birth having occurred August 6, 1874. Mrs. Good, like her husband, was educated in the public schools of Tiffin and later entered Heidelberg College, and, also like him, she had some experience as a school teacher. Their union has been cemented by the birth of three children: Myron, born October 19, 1902; Mina, born November 18, 1903; and Newell, born December 31, 1905.

On Mr. Good's land is a large cave, known as the Good or Seneca Cave, divided into several large rooms, one of them of unknown depth. This interesting spot is much in favor with sightseers. The subject and his wife are members of the Reformed church at Fireside, and take an active part in the same, the former being a trustee and Sunday school treasurer and one of the teachers. Mrs. Good is an earnest member of the Foreign Missionary Society.

As previously mentioned Mr. Good has ever taken an enlightened interest in educational matters, and he has done all in his power for the advancement of the cause. As president of the Annual Picnic Association of the public schools he has arranged for several successful holidays. His identification with the school board is of twelve years' duration, and he is at present at the head of the body. He casts his vote with the Democratic party and keeps in touch with current events and their bearing upon the affairs of his particular community, being, in short, of that stamp of citizenship which gives Seneca county its strength.

GEORGE DETTERMAN.—Harmon H. and Anna M. (Beimam-deich) Detterman, natives of Germany, were the parents of this well known citizen of Seneca county, who was born January 5, 1840. They came to America in 1833 and after stopping for a while in New York came to Ohio, locating in Scipio township, Seneca county. They did not come together, however. Mr. Detterman came on and worked on the Fort Wayne canal until he could save up enough money to send back to New York for his wife, who arrived in 1835, with their son Harmon, who later, in our Civil war, gave his life for his adopted country. For a time after his settlement in the county Mr. Detterman cleared land by contract for Stephen Dorsey and others. He then had two children—Harmon, just mentioned, and an infant born here. George, Samuel, Mary and Henry R. were born later. He located on eighty acres in Adams township, so thickly timbered that there was no opening in which to build his house. George helped to improve this place on which his father lived out his days. He was a member of his parents' household till his marriage. He married Caroline Briney, who was born August 2, 1839, a daughter of Henry and Rebecca Briney, an orphan from childhood, reared by others than relatives. She bore her husband three children: Charles F., of Adams township;

Emma J., who married Monroe Kistler and lives in Adams township; and Norman, who is dead. They reared as one of their family circle Estella Benehoff, who was educated at Greenspring and has taught school successfully four terms. She was born January 23, 1890.

About 1863 Mr. Detterman bought forty acres of land of his father. Two years later he bought eighty acres and about thirty-five years ago he bought ninety-three acres. He now owns two hundred and eighty-three acres. His home farm is one of the best in its vicinity. He has built on it a fine brick residence and several up-to-date out-buildings. He has given attention with much success to mixed farming. During the last twenty-one years he has done quite a large business in buying and selling timber, and for ten years past he has shipped much stock to eastern markets. He is a member of St. Jacob's church, Adams township, having been confirmed by the Rev. Dr. Henry Good when he was only sixteen years old. He has filled the church offices of deacon, elder and trustee. In all the relations of life he is friendly and helpful. His public spirit, many times tested and never found deficient, renders him a valuable citizen.

Charles F. Detterman, son of George and Caroline (Briney) Detterman, was born October 21, 1864. He was a member of his parents' home circle until 1886. On March 11 of that year he married Amanda Miller, daughter of J. J. Miller, one of the most prominent men of Adams township, who is represented in this work by a biographical article of more than ordinary interest, headed by the name of his son Daniel L. Mrs. Detterman was born March 12, 1867. She has borne her husband two children: Lola V., born October 24, 1891, and Thelma L., August 21, 1904. After his marriage Mr. Detterman set up as a farmer on the old Detterman homestead of forty acres, but now farms two hundred and ninety-three acres. He has a fine modern residence and barns and other out-buildings of the best class. In machinery and appliances for successful cultivation his farm is strictly up to date. In his political relations he is an independent Democrat. In his religious affiliation he is a member of St. Jacob's church. His daughter Lola, educated in the common schools, passed the Boxwell examination at the unusually early age of fourteen years. In Adams township the name of Detterman is honored as indicating men who may safely be relied on to do their full share in any emergency. There is nothing that has tended to the general good that they have not aided to the extent of their ability so long as they have been members of the community.

MARCUS DE WITT RULE, one of the younger representative men of Seneca county, was born September 8, 1890, a son of Albert J. and Ollie D. (Holtzel) Rule. His father was born June 30, 1859. His mother is a great-granddaughter of Michael Forble, a Marylander, who was among the very early pioneers in this county. When he settled here there was no house into which he and his family could move, and they were obliged to keep house under the spreading branches of a large tree until he could put up a log



cabin. The cabin was not ready for occupancy until in the fall, when approaching winter made it absolutely essential to the continued existence there of the family. Mr. Forble was a devout Christian who gave much time to evangelical work and to the alleviation of the sufferings of his fellow men. Not a few of the early settlers in his neighborhood were indebted to him for a helping hand, which proved him the friend in need who is the friend indeed. He was a good business man and a diligent and intelligent farmer, and in the course of his useful life amassed a fine property.

Albert J. Rule was a son of Jefferson and Eliza (Patterson) Rule, his father a native of New York, his mother a native of Ohio. Jefferson Rule was born March 26, 1820; Eliza Patterson was born in the same year. They secured and operated a fine farm in Adams township, on which they erected a good brick house in which they made their home to the end of their days. They had twelve children, six of whom survive. Jennie is Mrs. VanScoter, of St. John Michigan. Lucy E. is the wife of Edward Sherman, of St. John, Michigan. Ada E. married Charles E. Coffman, of Tiffin, Seneca county. Albert J. is the father of the immediate subject of this notice. Emma married Frank Metzger, of Adams township. Della V. married John Henninger, of Clinton township. Albert J. was married in 1885 and has four children: Bessie A., born in 1887; Mattie V., in 1888; Marcus D. in 1890; and Ruth N., in 1896.

Marcus De Witt Rule graduated from the public school at the remarkably youthful age of fourteen years. He studied later at Greenspring high school and at the Northern Ohio State Normal School and has since devoted much of his time to teaching. A young man of conspicuous success and of much promise, he is highly regarded by all who know him. He is identified with farming and in addition is a buyer and shipper of hay.

DAVID ALLCUT.—This venerable pioneer and representative citizen of Seneca county, which has ever represented his home, has for the last decade lived retired from active business in the city of Fostoria and his memory remains an indissoluble chain which links the pioneer days with the present twentieth century, marked by opulent prosperity and progress. He has taken an active part in the advancement of this part of the state from a sylvan wild to its present condition as a flourishing agricultural and industrial community, with admirably improved farms and thriving cities and villages. From the rude forest lodge of the early days, the primitive schools and meagre advantages of the pioneer epoch he has seen the varied transitions and in the evening of his life is enabled to enjoy the kindly fruits of his long years of earnest toil and endeavor.

David Allcut was born at Tiffin, Seneca county, on the 20th of September, 1824, and is a son of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Scott) Allcut. He was but seven years of age at the time of his mother's death and was left to the care of strangers. He was reared on a farm in this county and was afforded the meager advantages of the schools of the locality and period. About the year 1850 he

took up his residence in Fostoria, which was then known as the village of Rome. He learned the carpenter's trade and for many years was engaged in active work as contractor and builder. He assisted in the erection of many buildings that are still standing in Fostoria and the solidity of their construction shows the care and reliability brought to bear by builders of the early days.

When the integrity of the nation was thrown into jeopardy by armed rebellion David Allcut was one of the young men of Seneca county who gave prompt evidence of patriotism and loyalty by tendering his aid in defense of the Union. He was mustered in, at Monroeville, as a member of Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which gallant command he was in active service for three years, proving a faithful and valiant soldier of the rebellion and taking part in many battles and skirmishes. When the remains of the martyred president, Abraham Lincoln, laid in state at the national capitol, Mr. Allcut was assigned to duty as one of the guards of honor. He has maintained an abiding interest in his old comrades of the turbulent period of the Civil war and signifies the same by his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic.

After receiving his honorable discharge Mr. Allcut returned to Fostoria and resumed work at his trade but finally he assumed a position in the grain elevator of Foster, Olmstead and Company, with which firm he continued in service as a valued and trusted employe for the long period of twenty-three years. His sterling integrity and uniform courtesy won for him staunch friends among the farmers of this section and few citizens of Seneca county are better known or held in more unqualified esteem.

In politics Mr. Allcut has ever given unqualified allegiance to the Republican party and he has been called upon to serve in various offices of public trust, including that of member of the city council of Fostoria, city commissioner and township trustee. In public station, as in private life, his loyalty and fidelity have been of the most insistent order and have cemented his hold upon popular confidence and regard. Both he and his wife are devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church and in their kindly and gracious lives they have well exemplified the faith which they profess. Mr. Allcut is identified with the Masonic fraternity, in which his maximum affiliations are with DeMolay Commandery, Knights Templars. He has been identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for forty-five years and has on several occasions represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of the state. He is one of the three charter members of the Fostoria Lodge of the Knights of Pythias still living. He is also a charter member of the local tent of the Knights of the Maccabees. One of his most valued affiliations is that with Norris post, No. 27, Grand Army of the Republic, in which he has held various official positions and as a member of which he has attended many campfires and encampments. After years of earnest endeavor Mr. Allcut finally realized that the infirmities of advancing years rendered it expedient for him to retire from active business and for the past ten years he and his wife have been living under the most gracious surroundings in

their attractive home in Fostoria. On the site of their residence he erected his original dwelling nearly half a century ago. Surrounded by loyal friends and by the many influences that go to make life worth the living Mr. and Mrs. Allcut are passing the evening of their day under most pleasing conditions.

On the 1st of January, 1856, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Allcut to Miss Sarah Ann Young, who was born in Fairfield county, this state, and who is a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Mason) Young, who took up their residence in Seneca county in 1852. Mr. and Mrs. Allcut became the parents of two sons and five daughters, all of whom are living and all of whom are well established in homes of their own. The youngest child is in her fortieth year and is the mother of five children, besides which Mr. and Mrs. Allcut have eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. It is worthy of special note that in this splendid family there has been no death save that of one grandchild, who died in childhood.

JOHN WILLIAM GRIEST was born in Oxford township, Guernsey county, Ohio, May 22, 1881, a son of Thomas E. and Eliza J. (Hall) Griest. His father was born in Ohio, September 23, 1846. Milton Griest, Mr. Griest's grandfather on his father's side, married Mary Sykes, of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and they came to Ohio in 1825, locating on the site of Quaker City, Guernsey county. His mother was of the family of Hall so prominently mentioned in Howe's History of Ohio. Howe relates that John Hall was the first settler in Guernsey county. He came from North Carolina and lived in a hollow tree till he could build a log cabin. He was of the old stock of Quakers and was noted for his sobriety and his integrity. The reader is referred to the valuable old work mentioned for further interesting material concerning the Halls, the Griests and their neighbors.

John William Griest lived with his parents until he was twenty-one years old. His father gave him every available educational advantage, sending him to the common school, then to the high school. After leaving school the young man was a teacher, and as such he earned money to pay his tuition for a philosophical course at Wooster University, Wooster, Ohio. He has taught in the rural school three years, and was superintendent of schools at Salesville three years and at Greenspring for the same length of time.

On August 11, 1904, Mr. Griest married Miss Fannie Estella Stiles, born April 22, 1883, daughter of George A. and Mary (Bartholo) Stiles, of Jefferson township, Guernsey county, educated at the rural school and at Muskingum College. She has borne her husband three children: Mabel, born June 8, 1905; Mary Christina, August 27, 1907; and William Kermit, October 24, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Griest are Methodists. Both are active workers in the church and Sunday school. Mr. Griest was the promoter of the Greenspring Chatauqua, assuming all the work and responsibility of the first Assembly and later brought about the formation of the Chatauqua Company which erected the large auditorium in



which the annual assembly is now held. The chautauqua movement and the standard to which Mr. Griest raised the public schools speak for his progressiveness.

AUGUSTUS P. HOPPES.—A progressive agriculturist and stock raiser, a good citizen and faithful public servant, and one playing a prominent and praiseworthy part in the affairs of the county of which he is a native son, is Augustus Hoppes. The birthdate of Mr. Hoppes was February 2, 1865, and he is the son of Paul and Mary (Miller) Hoppes, two estimable people, natives of Pennsylvania and New York respectively, who located in Seneca county as early as 1832, when this section was by no means closely settled. They secured a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and the father was the possessor of one hundred more at the time of his demise, in April, 1905. Paul Hoppes engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Augustus P. Hoppes was educated in the district school, grew wise in the secrets of successful agriculture under the excellent tutelage of his father and remained upon the family homestead until his marriage. That happy event occurred on the 21st day of May, 1891, the lady to become his wife and the mistress of his household being Addie Norris, born March 7, 1869, a daughter of J. T. and Elizabeth (Hall) Norris, both of whom were natives of Ohio. J. T. Norris was a prominent man in his township of Scipio, was a stalwart Republican, and held various township offices. His family are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and take an active part in its affairs, giving their support to all the good causes promulgated by it. Mr. Norris was led to a religious life when a young man, was shortly afterward elected Sunday school superintendent and has held that position during most of the subsequent years. He was known far and wide and was universally beloved for his many good gifts of mind and heart and his unfailing kindness. He was a particular favorite with the school children. He received his education in the Republic Academy and chose for his life work farming and stock raising. His marriage was solemnized October 14, 1861, the Rev. J. H. Good of Tiffin, performing the ceremony. Mrs. Hoppes is one of eight children born to this good man and his excellent wife, namely: Allen L., October 18, 1864; Laurie S., August 28, 1866; Addie R., March 7, 1869; Della C. and Ella E., twins, born May 6, 1872; Clara E., July 11, 1876; Anna B., February 20, 1879; Ralph J., August 21, 1881. Two of the children are deceased, Ralph having died January 20, 1888; and Allen, August 19, 1907. The father passed on to his reward September 26, 1907.

Three children have been born to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hoppes, these being: Carl D., born October 23, 1892; Delia, born December 21, 1893; and Norma M., born October 4, 1896. Carl was educated in the public schools of Tiffin and Greenspring and received the district diploma in June, 1906, when only fourteen years of age. Delia received her education in the district schools and passed the Boxwell examinations on June 11, 1910. Norma

attends the district school and will graduate this year in Boxwell. All three of these promising young citizens are at home.

Mr. Hoppes and his family are members of St. Jacob's Reformed church, Carl having been confirmed April 26, 1908, and Delia, July 11, 1909. All take an active part in the Sunday school, Mr. Hoppes being one of the Consistory and Mrs. Hoppes teaches the infant class.

Mr. Hoppes' property comprises one hundred and twenty acres in Adams township and forty acres in Scipio belonging to Mrs. Hoppes, and cattle breeding has been engaged in quite extensively. They have a modern and commodious home, built about five years ago, and excellent outbuildings.

ELBRIDGE B. WOLFE.—Although not a native son of Adams township Mr. Elbridge B. Wolfe has been identified with its affairs since the year 1890 and by his successful management of a fine sixty-acre farm has placed himself in the ranks of those progressive agriculturists who are ever alert to the latest discoveries in the great basic industry of agriculture, of which they are the exponents. Mr. Wolfe was born in Ballville township, Sandusky county, August 30, 1866, his parents being Daniel M. and Eunice (Black) Wolfe, natives of Richland county, Ohio. The date of the father's birth was January 22, 1832, and that of the mother, January 6, 1834, and after their early marriage they located in Ballville township, Sandusky county, in the year 1852 or 1853. Here they settled upon a farm of fifty acres, which was the nucleus of a property upon which they made their residence for many years, the mother still residing there in fact, and the father having lived there until his death, on April 6, 1909. Previous to her marriage the mother taught school for several terms. The names of their five children were: Charles M., Irene S., E. B., Inez and Daniel M.

Daniel M. Wolfe, the father, was a man of power and prominence in his part of Ohio and promoted many worthy enterprises, both financially and otherwise, his talents by no means being restricted to the field of agriculture. He assisted in the building of churches and educational institutions and was interested in the building of the Nickel Plate Railway, which proved of incalculable value to the country through which it passed. Although for the main part independent in his political views, he was Republican in inclination. He gave efficient service as the incumbent of various township offices and in short played a prominent part in party affairs. He was a veteran of the Civil war, having joined the one hundred day service, and in Company K, One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Regiment, to which he belonged, having held the rank of second lieutenant. He was a member of the United Brethren church and took a leading part in its affairs.

Elbridge B. Wolfe was educated in the district schools and in the Greenspring Academy, which educational discipline was supplemented by a business course which was concluded with the class of 1887. He remained beneath the home roof until his marriage with Miss Ida J. McIntyre, which happy event was solemnized November 21, 1889. Mrs. Wolfe was born March 22, 1868, the

daughter of James and Catherine (Myers) McIntyre. They were prominent people and large landholders, having owned some five hundred acres in Adams township, which they divided among their children. They had a large family, the names of their sons and daughters being: John, Elizabeth, Roy, George, Henry, Ida Myrtle and Jennie. The McIntyres were also United Brethren in their religious views and were much esteemed where best known. They resided in Adams township, Seneca county.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe came to Adams township very shortly after their marriage and took up land, having ever since been engaged in agriculture. Mr. Wolfe's interests are by no means confined to his own individual affairs, but he is a public spirited citizen who gives no small amount of attention to public matters, especially those relating to the advancement of the township. His service as trustee and member of the school board has been of general benefit. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and for the past five years has served the good cause in the capacity of Sunday school superintendent. He pays fealty to the Democratic party and he has accomplished much in the cause of securing better roads.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe are the parents of four children. Ida Lucile was born October 13, 1890; Gladys M. was born February 23, 1892; Eunice C. was born October 13, 1899; James H. was born April 6, 1904. All of these young citizens are at home, Ida Lucile and Gladys M. being graduates of the Greenspring high school and both are now engaged in teaching in the public schools. The children also belong to the Methodist church and are earnest and intelligent workers in the fold.

WILLIAM M. BAKER was born September 11, 1866, in Adams township. Harmon and Margaret (Schlessman) Baker, the father a native of Pennsylvania, the mother a native of Adams township, located soon after their marriage on a farm of eighty acres which was owned by Michael Kestler. Harmon Baker came to the township in 1858 from Snyder county, Pennsylvania, where he was born August 13, 1838. His marriage was celebrated in 1862. On May 21, 1863, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in Company K, Twenty-ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he did gallant service until the close of hostilities, except for about a year when he was on the sick list. He was under Sherman, participating in the historic march from Atlanta to the sea, and at the end of the war took part in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C. He died in 1893, his widow surviving.

William M. Baker was educated in public schools, assisted his father in the management and cultivation of his farm, and was an inmate of his parents' home until his marriage, which occurred November 2, 1890. His wife was Miss Sarah A. Evert, born November 7, 1868, a daughter of Edward and Louise (Schaberg) Evert, both of Pennsylvania ancestry but her mother of German descent. Her father was brought here at the age of two years by William Evert, his father, who settled on a farm of eighty acres in Adams township in 1831, and farmed there until the end of his





W. D. Baker.

Sarah A. Baker.

Inez M. Baker.

Florence L. Baker.



life. He was a Lutheran, a Democrat and a man of force of character who took a prominent part in affairs of the township in his day. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have three children: Inez M., born June 21, 1895; Florence L., born January 23, 1899; and Mildred A., born July 26, 1906. Mr. Baker has taught school seventeen years, usually in his home township, but one term in Thompson township and four terms in other schools. He filled the office of committeeman five years, has held other local offices, and took the census of Adams township in 1900 and again in 1910. He is a stockholder and a director in the Bronson Telephone Company and in the Republic Bank. He is the owner of about forty-one acres of good land. In his political conviction he is an Independent Republican. A member of the Lutheran church, he has filled the offices of deacon and Sunday school superintendent, and in all ways has performed his full share in supporting his local organization and promoting its work.

Margaret Schlessman, who married Harmon Baker and became the mother of the immediate subject of this sketch, was of German blood, a daughter of John M. and Mary (Frymuth) Schlessman. Her parents came to Ohio in 1835 and secured a farm of two hundred acres in Adams township, Seneca county, where he died aged fifty-six and she, aged ninety-one. He was a farmer, a basket maker and a wagon maker.

WILLIAM PANCOAST.—Few citizens of Seneca county are better or more honorably known than William Pancoast, who for many years was successfully engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in Republic and who built up one of the substantial enterprises which contributed in no small measure to the prosperity of Scipio township. Now having retired from the more strenuous duties of the business, its details have fallen to the capable management of the son, Carl V. Pancoast, who has the distinction to be the youngest man in Ohio conducting a furniture and undertaking business. William Pancoast is one of the widely known men, and in lodge and other circles plays a prominent part. He belongs to an old American family, and one which has given many patriots to the country.

He was born March 22, 1839, in Wayne county, Ohio, and is the son of James and Mary (Yoder) Pancoast, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania and of Quaker descent. James was the son of Mortimer and Mary (Mayers) Pancoast, and Mortimer Pancoast was the son of an Englishman who in 1680 crossed the blue Atlantic to gain greater freedom in America. He lived to a great old age, dying in 1776. James Pancoast was the first of the name to come to Ohio. He arrived in the year 1840 and located in Wayne county. He had been a soldier in the Indian wars. He married in Pennsylvania and became the father of a large family of children, five, Carter, Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth and Rebecca, being born in Pennsylvania, and five, William, Edward, George, Thomas and the subject, claiming Ohio as their birthplace. All the subject's brothers were soldiers in the Civil war, giving their valiant service to the cause of the Union.



William Pancoast resided under the home roof until the beginning of the Civil war plunged the country into darkness and devastation, and he enlisted in Company G, Twenty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, his immediate officer being Captain Way. For a little over three years he fought under the stars and stripes and in June, 1864, was mustered out as orderly sergeant and discharged. William Pancoast arrived in Ohio at an early enough day to find the Indian still lingering ere he was swept finally westward by the onward march of civilization. He was personally acquainted with the well-known Indian, Joel Gorrott, and his mother, and Mr. Pancoast had it from the latter's own lips that she had assisted in gathering the faggots used in the burning of Colonel William Crawford in Wyandot county. Her son Joel was interpreter for the white men in the county mentioned.

After the war Mr. Pancoast was married to Mary Miller, born July 17, 1841, the daughter of Abraham and Jane Chamberlain Miller, natives of New York and New Jersey, respectively. Abraham was the first of the Miller family to come to Ohio, Mary being twenty months old at the time. He was a blacksmith and after locating at Republic he there pursued his trade. There were the following children in the Miller family: Mary, Daniel, Felicia, Annis, John, Henry and Edward. Henry, at the time of the Rebellion, was in service in Company H of the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

In 1872 Mr. Pancoast took up the furniture and undertaking business, and by sound and assertive business methods, modern ideas and probity in his dealings, built up an excellent permanent trade. He has since sold his interest in the concern to his son Carl. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pancoast have been born five children. Bertram, born in July, 1866, is now a resident of California, where in Los Angeles he is engaged in the real estate business. He chose as his wife Miss Nan Swordfeger, of Nebraska. Carl V. was born June 23, 1879, and his business associations have been previously mentioned. Edith is the wife of C. J. Cummings, of Prospect, Ohio, who answers the double calling of agriculturist and hardware merchant. Bessie is the wife of Dr. S. C. Wagner, of Wakarusa, Indiana. Florence is the wife of Edward Frash, of Youngstown, Ohio. All received their education in the excellent public schools of Republic and Carl enjoyed the additional advantages of instruction in Columbus and Cincinnati.

Mr. Pancoast is a loyal Republican, and one whose loyalty consists in deeds as well as in words. He has proved his faithfulness and efficiency in public office and has in fact held every township office. He was a member of the school board for nine years and a member of the village council for a long term. He is a Mason of prominence and popularity and has held all the chairs in the order, as well as some of those in the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is a member. He is likewise affiliated with the Sons of Malta. Mr. Pancoast has been identified with Masonry since 1866 and has found no small amount of pleasure in his relations with this ancient and august order. He was nine years justice of the peace and is notary public at present.

The subject has witnessed great change and development in this section of Ohio while assisting in the same. Among the interesting people whose acquaintance he has possessed were the missionaries, Russell Bigelow, John Thompson, John C. Pointer, Rev. Mr. Ganit and an Indian, Between-the-Logs.

Carl V. Pancoast, son of William and previously mentioned, received his preliminary education in the schools of Republic and subsequently studied at Cincinnati. Possessing marked musical ability, he studied music under Professor Tinkey of Toledo and is well cultivated and remarkably gifted in vocal and violin music. He was the youngest man who ever received a license as an undertaker in the state of Ohio and his career as a mortuarian covers a period of thirteen years. He resided with his parents until his marriage with Roxey Rakestraw, which was celebrated June 23, 1903. Mrs. Pancoast was born July 3, 1879, and is the daughter of Herron and Catherine (Cramer) Rakestraw, natives of Youngstown, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, respectively. They located in Reed township and the father was one of the most prominent officials in the county, besides being a substantial property owner, having several large farms in Reed township. Among the public duties entrusted to him was the county commissionership, which he held for nine years.

Carl V. Pancoast, like his father, is prominently identified with the Masonic order, in which he has held all the chairs, holding the office of junior warden at the present time. Both he and his wife are affiliated with the Eastern Star. Both are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church and take an active part in its affairs. He is interested in public affairs and subscribes to the articles of faith of the Republican party.

JOSEPH HILSINGER.—Within the pages of this work will be found specific mention of many sterling citizens who are native sons of Seneca county and who have here passed their entire lives, becoming identified with the industrial activities of this section of the state and gaining success through their well directed efforts. Of this number is the subject of the sketch, who is one of the progressive and highly esteemed farmers of Scipio township, and whose three hundred and forty well improved and highly cultivated acres are among the most desirable hereabout. Mr. Hilsinger was born January 20, 1841, in Scipio township, on the old family homestead. His parents were Joseph and Mary M. (Rarrich) Hilsinger, the father a native of the Black Forest of Germany and the mother of Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, she being likewise of the nationality which produced her husband. Joseph Hilsinger, the elder, crossed the blue Atlantic in 1825, and located for a time in the city of Philadelphia, and afterward removed to Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he resided for a time and pursued his vocation, which was that of a jeweler. Upon coming to this county he located north of Republic about two and one-half miles, this being in the year 1834. He became the possessor of an eighty acre farm and here lived until his death. To Mr. and Mrs. Hilsinger were born three children. Sarah became the wife of David Critz and

is now deceased; Harrison, deceased, resided in Barry county, Michigan; and Joseph lives on the old farm in Scipio township.

Mr. Hilsinger passed his early years upon his father's farm and received his education in the public schools and in the academy at Republic. In 1861 he laid the foundation of a happy married life by his union with Catherine Smith, daughter of David Smith and a native of Pennsylvania. Their union was fruitful of four children, David, the eldest, now in Republic, Ohio; Nora, who married Byron Wyant, of Bellevue; Calvin, who is engaged in the banking business in Toronto, Ohio; and Clara, wife of E. C. Fox, of Tiffin.

After his marriage Mr. Hilsinger assumed the management of the old home place and he has added to the land until he is to be numbered among the considerable property owners. Besides the three hundred and forty acres in Scipio township he owns a good deal of property in Oklahoma City, and has just returned from looking after his interests. Politically he subscribes to the articles of faith of the Democratic party and has always been greatly interested in church and school affairs in the township, and has held acceptably various public offices on the school board and elsewhere. He is an extensive traveler, particularly in the last few years, and knows well the southwest and eastern states. He is one of the valued members of the Reformed church, and his support is given to all good causes.

HENRY EVERT, son of Edward and Louise (Schaberg) Evert, was born February 8, 1866. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother was a native of Germany. He came to Seneca county in 1833, making the journey from his old home by wagon, in company with his parents and other members of their family. He married April 17, 1856, and engaged in farming. His wife bore him nine children, the following items concerning whom will be found interesting in this connection: Mary married H. Butz, a farmer in Adams township. William died at the age of nineteen years. Amanda became the wife of Preston Kintner, of Sandusky county. Lena married Hiram Billman and lives in Indiana. Henry lives on his great-grandfather's place in Adams township. Sarah married William Backer, of Adams township. Verda is Mrs. Herbert Baker, of Sandusky. Alvinie married Charles Matz and lives on one of her father's farms in Adams township. In one line of descent Mr. Evert comes of the Kistler family so well represented in this vicinity. His mother, Louisa Schaberg, was a daughter of Herman Schaberg. Her mother was a Buchholtz. One of his relatives, Catharine Schaberg, lived to the advanced age of ninety-two years.

Henry Evert received his instruction in District No. 2, working summers and attending school in winters. Leaving school at the age of twenty-one years he worked by the month for five years. After his marriage he lived on his father's farm for two years, then purchased a farm in Pleasant township and selling that, removed to their present home. He bought this farm in the year 1900. It consists of sixty acres and is well equipped in every way for suc-



cessful cultivation. He built a fine new barn in 1909. His house was erected by his great-grandfather, John Kistler, and old as it is it is well preserved. As a farmer he is successful, raising general crops and always having some good stock. He is a man of public spirit, ever ready to assist to the extent of his ability in the promotion of any measure which will in his opinion benefit his town or county.

Mr. Evert married Miss Minda Ellora Miller October 27, 1897. She is a daughter of J. J. Miller of Adams township, mentioned at considerable length elsewhere in these pages. She attended district school in Adams Centre school building, leaving the same at seventeen and next entered the academy at Greenspring, under the management of Professor Harry Robinson. She has borne her husband one child, Mabel A., born October 28, 1898. It should be added that Mr. and Mrs. Evert have reared a boy named Ralph W. Reed, who has been a member of their home circle thirteen years. Mr. Evert is identified with the Lutheran church, in the work of which he is active and generously helpful. In his political views he is a Democrat.

ROMANUS R. BOUR.—A public spirited and influential citizen of Tiffin, Romanus R. Bour has long been prominent in public life, for twenty-eight consecutive years having been connected with the county auditor's office, the last few years serving as auditor. A son of John Bour, he was born January 19, 1860, in Tiffin, on Sandusky street, and has never wandered very far away, the house in which his birth occurred being plainly seen from his present home. His paternal grandparents were natives of Alsace-Lorraine, now part of the German Empire, and on leaving the Fatherland they came to the United States, and for a while resided in New York City.

John Bour was born October 9, 1835, in New York City. Coming to Seneca county in early life, he was for many years prosperously engaged in business in Tiffin, but about a quarter of a century ago he retired to a farm in Eden township, where he has since lived in comfort and plenty. He married Elizabeth Swope, who was born August 11, 1831, in Canton, Ohio, and of the seven children born of their union six are living, as follows: Edward; Otto; Romanus R.; Zenobia, wife of John Fiegelist; Della, wife of William Wagoner; and Elnora, wife of Lawrence Spohn.

Brought up in Tiffin, Romanus R. Bour attended St. Mary's Parochial school until fourteen years old, when he entered the Tiffin high school, where he continued his studies three years, afterward attending Heidelberg College two years. He subsequently taught school for a year and a half, after which he assisted his father in business for a year. In 1882 Mr. Bour entered the office of the county auditor, becoming clerk for Francis E. Stoner. The following year he was made deputy auditor, and served under different auditors, namely Dr. J. A. Norton, William H. Slosser and Lee Nighswander, for upwards of a score of years. In the fall of 1903 Mr. Bour was elected county auditor of Seneca county, and having assumed the responsibility of the office in October, 1904,

served until October, 1909, rendering efficient and praiseworthy service in that capacity. In the fall of 1910 he was elected representative for his county in the General Assembly of Ohio.

On May 14, 1884, Mr. Bour was united in marriage with Ida M. Strouse, a native of Allentown, Pennsylvania, and they are the parents of seven children, namely: Edwin J., born November 1, 1885; James Norton, born August 11, 1889; Bertha I., born January 16, 1892; Charles R., born May 8, 1894; Elmer W., born November 3, 1896; Margaret, born March 10, 1900; and Paul, born June 3, 1902. Mrs. Bour is a member of Grace Reformed church, and Mr. Bour and the children are all members of St. Mary's Catholic church. Fraternally Mr. Bour belongs to the Knights of Columbus.

PAUL TITUS WATSON, of Old Fort, Pleasant township, Seneca county, Ohio, was born at Watson Station, that county, November 3, 1883, a son of the late Oliver S. and Flora T. (Titus) Watson, natives of Ohio, born respectively in 1844 and 1853. He began his education in the public school at Watson Station. Then after removing to Old Fort at the age of seven was graduated from the local third grade high school in 1900. From the Tiffin high school he was graduated with the class of 1903 and after that he studied two years at Heidelberg College, Tiffin. He then took up the study of medicine, entering the Ohio Medical University, at Columbus, where he remained for two years. Then he returned home because of his father's poor health.

Mr. Watson was a member of his parents' household, until January 6, 1909, when he was united in marriage with Miss Clemence Hubbard. Mrs. Watson was born March 13, 1886, and is a daughter of Elisha B. and Helen (Sawyer) Hubbard. Her parents, natives of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, respectively, came early to Seneca county and located at Bellevue, whence they soon removed to Tiffin. Mr. Watson began his business life with the Hopple Handle Factory, with which concern he remained two years. After his marriage he settled on a fine farm, the old Titus homestead, at Old Fort and devoted himself to mixed farming and stockraising and feeding. The farm consists of three hundred and sixty-eight acres, has a good residence and ample outbuildings and is well supplied with modern machinery and appliances.

In his political preferences Mr. Watson is a Democrat. In the matter of church faith he is a member of the Presbyterian church of Tiffin, his wife being an Episcopalian.

A short account of the Titus family, maternal ancestors of Mr. Watson, is as follows: Curtis Titus and his wife Lucinda (Wildman) Titus and family were natives of Connecticut, who settled in this county in 1833 where Mr. Titus died two years later. Rasselas R. Titus, youngest son of this old settler, was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, July 21, 1819, and came with his parents to Adams township, in Seneca county, in 1833, and in 1841 settled in Pleasant township. April 21, 1844, he was married to Miss Elvira Clark, a resident of Pleasant township and a native of Huron county, Ohio, where she was born May 31, 1820. She was a daughter of Town

and Philothe (Case) Clark, natives of New York state, who were married in 1816 in Huron county, Ohio, whither their parents had emigrated in 1812. In 1835 they came to Pleasant township. Town Clark was nominated for the office of legislator and for that early day was considered a very wealthy person, owning something over three hundred acres of land.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Titus are four daughters, who are living: Augusta L., wife of F. I. Fry; Calena M., wife of A. L. Abbot; Flora A., wife of Oliver S. Watson; and Lettie L., wife of Robert Watson. Mr. Titus accumulated nearly one thousand acres of the best land the state affords. He was elected in 1859 upon the state equalization board, a member of the legislature from 1861 to 1865, serving during the war, and always was an active Democrat. Old Fort or New Fort Seneca on the line of the Nickle Plate Railroad was platted in June, 1882, by county surveyor Nighswander, for R. R. Titus and a record of the plat was made in October, 1882. The location is upon the farm of R. R. Titus and upon the site of the old-earthworks of that name.

HENRY EBORG.—One of the prominent farmers of Old Fort Pleasant township, Seneca county, Ohio, is Henry Eborg, whose contribution to the progress and development of this section of the state has been of the most insistent order. He was born in the kingdom of Westphalia, Germany, on the 29th of October, 1865, and is a son of Herman and Catherine (Linneman) Eborg, both of whom passed their entire lives in the old fatherland. Herman Eborg was identified with agricultural pursuits during the major portion of his active business career and at the age of twenty-two years he assumed the responsibilities of married life. Mr. and Mrs. Eborg became the parents of six children, concerning whom the following brief data are here incorporated: August is deceased; Henry is the immediate subject of this review; August, named after the first child, is engaged in farming in Germany; Fredericka married Herman Schreck and they reside in Reed township, Seneca county; Johanna became the wife of William Schaberg, a farmer in Germany; and Herman also maintains his home in Germany.

Henry Eborg attended the district schools in Germany until he had attained to the age of fourteen years, at which time he hired out as a farm hand, receiving in return for his labors the sum of thirty dollars a year. In 1882 he decided to seek his fortunes in the new world and after bidding farewell to home and friends he embarked for America. He landed in the port of New York city and proceeded immediately to Ohio, locating first near Republic, where he found employment on James Hilsinger's farm. After his marriage, on the 20th of March, 1889, he and his wife continued to work for about eighteen months, at the expiration of which they had accumulated enough money with which to rent a farm in Reed township, this farm being owned by Jerry Neikirk. There they continued to reside for a period of fourteen years, when, in 1907, they established their home in Old Fort Pleasant township, where Mr. Eborg purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty-three acres. This estate is finely improved and everything about the



place indicates thrift and industry. Mr. Eborg devotes his attention to diversified agriculture and the raising of high-bred cattle, his specialty being the Durham brand. In politics Mr. Eborg accords a staunch allegiance to the Democratic party and he and his wife are devout members of the German Reformed church, in whose faith they were reared. In 1905 Mr. Eborg paid a visit to his old home in Germany, spending about six weeks amidst the scenes of his youth and renewing old friendships.

On the 20th of March, 1889, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Eborg to Miss Minnie Barlekamp, who is likewise a native of Germany, whence she came to America, in company with her parents, when fourteen years of age. She was born on the 16th of December, 1863, and is a daughter of Frederick and Eliza (Cepker) Barlekamp, the latter of whom is deceased and the former of whom now resides near Fremont, he being seventy-eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Eborg have four children: William H., born June 9, 1890; Alvin H., born April 19, 1892; Earnest F., born April 30, 1896; and Bernice C., born April 12, 1898. All of the children remain at the parental home.

GEORGE E. GOODING.—This prosperous citizen of Seneca county has lived on his fine farm of eighty acres in Adams township for more than five years. He was born August 13, 1868, in this township, a son of Josiah and Mary A. (Petticord) Gooding. Much that is interesting concerning the family of Gooding will be found in a sketch in this work of the life of Herbert A. Gooding, and in this connection the reader is referred to that article.

George E. Gooding was educated in the common school near his boyhood home, learned farming as boy and man, assisting his father, and remained under the paternal roof until his marriage. He married Anna Newhouse December 3, 1894, and they have two children: Milo C., born May 12, 1896, and Albert R., born July 5, 1907. Mrs. Gooding was born March 8, 1874, in Adams township a daughter of Henry and Catharine (Tucehbert) Newhouse, natives of Germany, who came to the United States about 1866, locating at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where they remained for a time. Eventually they made their way to Ohio and secured and improved a farm in Adams township, Seneca county, where they quickly took rank among the best people. Their children were named Fred, Sophie, Sadie, Henry, Harmon, Dena, August, Nora, Anna and Emma.

Mr. Gooding is a member of the Reformed church, devout in his participation in its services and generous in his support of all its various interests. Politically he is a Republican, in all national affairs solicitous for the success of its principles, its leaders and its measures; in local politics he favors the election of the best men to office regardless of political bias. He is especially interested in the public school system, and his influence has always been exerted toward its advancement and its substantial betterment. Indeed, so great is his public spirit that he can be counted on to help all good home interests so far as is possible.

LAFAYETTE KISTLER, born June 6, 1857, is a son of David and Lydia (Kistler) Kistler, natives of Seneca county. David was a son of Michael Kistler, whose father, Michael Kistler, was a native of Pennsylvania. The latter came to Ohio late in the eighteenth century and secured eighty acres of land from the government. He married a German woman and had six children. His son Michael married a Lind and had eight children. His son David was born September 11, 1834, and married Lydia Kistler August 14, 1856. She was born April 12, 1833, and she bore her husband children as follows: Lafayette, at the date above given; Amanda J., January 12, 1859; David, March 7, 1861; Sallie A., December 3, 1863; Julia A., June 16, 1865; Eli, December 3, 1866; Lydia A., September 4, 1869; Michael, October 10, 1871.

The immediate subject of this notice was educated in district schools and was a member of his parents' household until his marriage. He married Anna D. Setzler March 5, 1881. She has borne him three children: Minnie, September 25, 1883; Loy D., July 17, 1889; and Roscoe L., November 10, 1893. After his marriage Mr. Kistler began farming on his own account, and he has for the most part been so employed continuously to the present time. He has a fine farm of one hundred and thirty-three acres, well improved, well stocked and provided with modern essentials to successful cultivation. He gives his attention principally to mixed farming. He is a member and he and his family are attendants upon the services of the Lutheran church, toward the varied interests of which he is so friendly that he is one of the most liberal contributors to their support. He is also a teacher in its Sunday school. Politically he is an independent Democrat. He was for five years a member of the township school board and officially and otherwise did all in his power to advance the schools in efficiency and usefulness. His own children he has afforded as good educational facilities as were at his command. His daughter Minnie, educated in the district school and at Bellevue, was graduated at the early age of fourteen years, received a teacher's certificate at sixteen and is now in her ninth year as a successful teacher. Loy D. attended school number four. Roscoe L. was a student there also and passed the Boxwell examination with the class of 1909, which included twenty-three members. Mrs. Kistler was born March 10, 1859, in Thompson township, Seneca county, a daughter of John and Mary (Haas) Setzler, natives of Germany, who came to Ohio in 1834 and settled on a farm in Brew township, Huron county. It is a matter of family history that they were three months on board an old fashioned sailing vessel making the voyage from the Fatherland to the land of their adoption. It should be explained that Henry and Elizabeth Setzler, Mrs. Kistler's grandparents in the paternal line, came, bringing their children, of whom John Setzler, her father, was one, and that Jacob and Dorothy (Barringer) Hass came, with their family, at the same time, the latter also locating in Brew township, Huron county. At that time John Setzler was about ten years old. George Kistler was the founder of the family of Kistler in America. Our subject's home was a station of the "underground railway," the regular

route over which fugitive slaves from the southern states were helped to liberty in Canada, in the days before the Civil war.

In a suggestive way this brief family history is one of the most interesting in this big volume. It is a story of Germans who came to the United States and made it as truly their land as had been their beloved Fatherland. It is a story of self-made men who wrought success out of bare pioneer opportunities and helped to make a wilderness to bloom as the rose. It is a story of the general progress of our country in which all alike have profited according to their enterprise and their industry. Especially is it a story that should have the attention of young men just entering upon the battle of life.

ISAAC F. BETTS.—One of the most sightly homes and one of the most modern in its vicinity, if not in the whole county, is the residence of Isaac F. Betts, erected in Adams township at an expense of about five thousand dollars. It is a fine structure of modern style, the conception of an artistic architect, its hardwood floors and other interior woodwork being finished in oil. It is provided with a complete water system, involving bath, toilet, wash and laundry rooms, the laundry room being accessible from all parts of the house for the delivery of bundles by means of chutes communicating with all floors. With this elegant domicile Mr. Betts' productive farm is in keeping, being cultivated by Mr. Betts and an assistant in accordance with up to date methods and provided with the latest inventions in the way of implements and appliances for successful operation.

Isaac F. Betts was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, March 28, 1857, a son of Michael and Catherine (Bish) Betts, natives respectively of Fairfield county, Ohio, and of the state of New York. His father, who was a millwright, located on the bank of the stream known as Wolf creek, built a mill, opened a farm and began without delay to busy himself at lumber manufacturing and farming. The land he acquired was a tract of one hundred and forty acres that had been entered by a Mr. Gorn. The son was educated at district schools near his boyhood home and lived under his father's roof, assisting him in his varied labors, till he married and was ready to establish a home for himself. He married Miss Almyra King. Her parents were Phillip and Angevine (Sheets) King, natives respectively of Perry county, Ohio, and of Maryland. Mr. Betts dispenses a generous hospitality and is personally very interesting and entertaining. Public spirited in the extreme, he is always in the front ranks of those who would advance the interests of the township or of the county. His political views are broad and essentially patriotic. His father will go down in history as having given his name to the town of Bettsville in this state.

LEVI WEIKER.—A representative agriculturist of Scipio township, Seneca county, Ohio, is Levi Weiker, who was born on the 18th of February, 1848, a son of Joseph and Nancy (Hawkins) Weiker, the place of his birth being Adams township. Joseph Weiker was



born in Pennsylvania; whence he accompanied his parents, Jacob and Mary Weiker, to Ohio in the year 1839. They located on a farm in Adams township, this county, and Joseph early became associated with his father in clearing and cultivating this estate. He resided at the parental home until his marriage to Miss Nancy Hawkins, who was born in Virginia but reared in Maryland. They became the parents of twelve children: John, Sarah, Jacob, David, Isaac, Valentine, Emanuel, Levi, Hannah, Anna, George and Jonah.

Levi Weiker availed himself of the advantages afforded in the district schools of Seneca county and after his marriage, in 1872, he resided for a time with his father on the old homestead in Adams township. In 1882 Mr. Weiker bought their present farm of seventy-four acres. When they first took up this farm it was covered with woods but they gradually cleared it and they now have one of the finest farms in the county, their spacious residence and barns being of the most modern construction. About 1885 Mr. Weiker had erected on the farm a mill in which he manufactures cider wine and jelly, he having ground up many thousands of bushels of apples. The father of Mr. Weiker used to saw lumber with the old pin wheel mill, which was built in 1828. At one time it was destroyed by fire but it was reconstructed in 1834 and is still in use.

On the 21st of November, 1872, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Weiker to Miss Magdelene J. Shorger, a daughter of Valentine and Barbria (Fatie) Shorger both of whom were born in Germany, emigrating to America in an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Shorger were married in New York and after coming to Ohio they located in Adams township, the father being a shoemaker by trade. Some time after his arrival in Seneca county he purchased a farm of eighty acres and had a family of thirteen children: George, Mary, Magdelene, William, Philip, John, Elbert, Gust, George (the first George having died), Elizabeth, Hannah, Nora, and Wallace, eight of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Weiker became the parents of eleven children, one of whom is deceased. The names and respective dates of birth of the above mentioned children are here incorporated: Benjamin F., January 6, 1874; Joseph V., May 21, 1875; Lena E., February 1, 1877; John O., August 2, 1878; Cora M., September 21, 1881; Perry E., January 26, 1883; Nettie J., December 29, 1884; Lottie, A., April 10, 1887; Minnie M., September 16, 1888; A. Levi, November 4, 1890; and Oscar J., November 14, 1893. All of the above children were afforded excellent educational advantages, having attended the district and high school at Republic. Lena and Joseph V. were graduated in Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, and were engaged in teaching for a time. Joseph V. attended college at Ada and Oscar J. is now a student in the high school at Republic. Six of the children are married and concerning them the following brief data are here incorporated: Benjamin F. married Abbie Alford on the 25th of November, 1898, and they have one child, Agnes, who was born on the 22d of December, 1899; Joseph V. wedded Jessie Miller; Lena is the wife of Russell Miller and they have two children, Vernon D., born August 26, 1903, and Doris F., born February 4, 1905; Cora is the

wife of Dan Cole and they have one boy, Carrol P., born February 28, 1909; Nettie married Orvis Kretsinger and they have one son, Francis M., born February 9, 1908; and Perry E. married Blanch Hechart February 12, 1911, at Bloomville, Seneca county.

Levi Weiker is a Democrat in his political proclivities and he has contributed in no small measure to the progress and development of this section of Seneca county. He is a loyal and public spirited citizen and ever gives his aid in support of all movements advanced for the general welfare of the community. He is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character and he is a member of the Reformed church, his wife holding membership in the Lutheran church.

Benjamin F. Weiker, eldest son of the subject of this review, married Abbie M. Alford, as previously noted. She was born on the 20th of June, 1880, a daughter of Isaac and Ruth (Vanetta) Alford. They were members of the Reformed church at Bloomville, taking an active interest in the same. Benjamin F. Weiker is a carpenter by trade and he continued to be occupied with that business until 1904, at which time he launched the Republic flour mill. This well conducted establishment has a volume of about seventy thousand bushels of wheat per year, from which the various brands of flour are manufactured, the Weiker Eldorado turning out about fifteen hundred barrels of flour annually. Benjamin F. received his educational training in the public schools of Seneca county, as did also his wife. They are devout members of the Reformed church of Adams township and he is a Democrat in his political adherency. He has given most efficient service as a member of the school board and as a member of the village council. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed the various official chairs. He is an energetic and progressive business man and has a widespread reputation for fair and honorable methods and sterling integrity.

DANIEL L. MILLER, born May 1, 1858, is a son of J. J. and Sarah (Robenalt) Miller, natives respectively of the state of New York and of Ohio. He lived with his parents till his marriage. His wife was Miss Mary Butz, daughter of Edward and Jane (Kistler) Butz, natives of Pennsylvania, who came to Seneca county in the days of pioneering. Her grandfather when he came moved into the woods and tried to start a farm, but for some time was unable to make a living, so he and his wife separated temporarily, each seeking work. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were married December 30, 1880, and have five children: Earnest, born March 15, 1882; Orrin, born December 24, 1883; Alton, born December 20, 1885; Rosece, born October 21, 1889; and Wade, born October 11, 1891. Rosco and Wade were educated at public schools near their home and the latter passed the Boxwell examination. After his marriage Mr. Miller began farming for himself on his father's farm, and lived there eight years. In 1889 he bought fifty acres and later a hundred and sixty acres. He gives attention very profitably to general farming and to stock breeding, in which he has been markedly successful. Beginning as a poor

man, he has made for himself a competency. He is a member of St. Jacob's Reformed church, one of the leading religious institutions in his vicinity, active and generous in support of all its varied interests. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, reserving the right to independence. Interested in public education, he has cheerfully and very ably served his townsmen as a member of the school board.

J. J. Miller, father of the immediate subject of this notice, was born in the empire state February 21, 1829, and was brought to Ohio by his parents, Daniel W. and Anna (Bergstresser) Miller, in 1836. They located in Adams township, Seneca county, on two hundred and forty acres of land bought of Daniel Rule, and on that farm the parents lived out their days, the father dying at the advanced age of eighty-six years, without having been sick a day in all his life until his fatal illness, which began three days before his death. He was a member of the Lutheran church, generously helpful in its support and devout in his attendance upon its worship. A Democrat, he was loyal to his party and to his country, for the freedom of which his ancestor, Daniel Miller, had fought in the Revolutionary war so valiantly that he won the attention of General Washington and was chosen from among many others to be the patriot commander's cook. Daniel was a weaver by trade, and there are preserved by his descendants specimens of his handiwork, fine cloths in good preservation which he manufactured from warp and woof made by his wife from raw material by means of the old fashioned carder, spinning wheel and reel.

J. J. Miller passed his boyhood days on a farm in a new country, learning a good deal about farming by hard experience. In the winter, when he could be spared, he went to a district school three miles away, walking sometimes through deep mud, often through snow from a foot to a foot and a half deep, finding the journey twice a day very tiresome but persevering, for what he hoped to gain by such hardship. His recollections of other pioneer experiences are vivid. Among the relics of those days that he has preserved is one of the first wagons built in this part of the country—one of the old "crotch skein" affairs, with linchpins to hold the wheels on. When he was sixteen he began to learn the cooper's trade. Much of his time till 1852 was spent on his father's place, however. In that year he went overland to California, in the hope that he would win success as a gold miner. He left Independence, Mo., with a wagon train and was one hundred and one days in completing a journey memorable for its dangers and vicissitudes. About two thirds of the way out from Independence he was left in the desert to die of thirst and exhaustion, he being ill and unable to travel. He had a companion in misery not quite so far gone who scouted ahead and found some water that was being sold at two dollars and a half a gallon by some enterprising wayfaring pirates who were temporarily absent from their stock-in-trade. Mr. Miller's comrade went back and brought Mr. Miller to the place, not without some difficulty, for by this time the latter was bleeding from the mouth, his throat parched and crack-



ing. The man thus providentially and singularly saved tells that he drank of that confiscated water till he was nauseated. It revived him, however, and he was able to make his way to the site of Carson City, Nevada, where he built the first house, a primitive structure, for Kit Carson, the great scout and Indian fighter, for whom the place was subsequently named. After completing that work he went on to California, where he found employment with a contractor in digging for gold at five dollars a day. Later he took up mining on his own account and was satisfactorily successful. In 1854 he returned to Ohio, and October 17, 1858, bought forty acres of land in Adams township, on which he lived till he moved to Greenspring and which he still calls his "home." At Greenspring he has a fine village house. From time to time he has made other purchases of land until he owns two hundred and four acres. A part of his town property is a lot of about an acre, on which, at the age of eighty-two years, he is successfully gardening, raising vegetables as noteworthy for their size and excellence as for their variety. He married Miss Sarah Robenalt in 1855 September 1, the anniversary of her birth in 1837. She was a daughter of Sol and Catharine (Powell) Robenalt. She died in 1909, having borne her husband children as follows: Ida J., wife of A. R. Young, a prominent citizen of Greenspring, was born in the year 1856; Warren P., was born March 15, 1857; Daniel L., was born May 1, 1858; Delia A., was born April 1, 1861; Noble A., was born November 29, 1863; Almarinda, was born May 12, 1867; Mary B., was born August 3, 1870; Minda, wife of Henry Everett was born October 19, 1875; Jacob P., was born May 29, 1879. As a Democrat of independent leanings, Mr. Miller was elected township trustee and member of the school board. He is identified with the Lutheran church.

BRANTLEY B. MCKIBBEN—A native son of Seneca county, Ohio, where he was born and reared to maturity and where he is now engaged in the great basic art of agriculture as manager of the home farm for his widowed mother, Brantley B. McKibben is a son of John B. and Etta (Armatage) McKibben, the former of whom was likewise a native of this county, where he was born on the 11th of October, 1854, and the latter of whom was born February 13, 1863. John B. McKibben attended the district schools of Seneca county for about three months each year until he was eighteen years of age, at which time he entered the Normal school at Republic, Ohio. Thereafter he attended the Normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, for a period of three years, at the expiration of which he removed to Marion county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming. Three years later he returned to Seneca county and in 1883 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Etta Armatage concerning whose family further data will be given in a following paragraph. In 1885 Mr. McKibben removed with his family to Independence, Kansas, and after a three years' sojourn there he took up his residence in Tiffin, Ohio, where he entered the employment of the United States Glass Works. He was identified with the interests of this concern for seven years and in



THE LATE JOHN B. MCKIBBEN AND FAMILY OF SENECA COUNTY, ATTICA, OHIO





1895 he again turned his attention to agricultural pursuits on his farm he purchased in Reed township and where he was summoned to eternal rest on the 20th of January, 1910, the cause of his death being cancer of the pancreas. He is survived by his cherished and devoted wife and eight children, namely: Eugene E., who was born on the 22nd of October, 1885, married Miss Bertha Spicer and they reside at Bryan, Ohio; Dessie B., born October 23, 1889; Nova, born November 20, 1892; Elizabeth C., born March 21, 1895; John J., born September 28, 1898; Alice E., born July 3, 1900; Orville O., born August 19, 1905; all remain at the parental home; and Brantley B., the immediate subject of this review.

Elizabeth Armatage, the maternal grandmother of him whose name initiates this article, resides in Seneca county and she has attained to the ripe old age of seventy-seven years. The Armatage family was established in Seneca county in the early pioneer days and is one of prominence in this section of the state. John W. and Elizabeth Armatage became the parents of the following children: Wesley J. Armatage, who resides in Attica with his mother; George H. Armatage, who married Rebecca Friedley, resides in Crawford county; Alvin R. Armatage, married Celia Stigmeyer; Charles H. Armatage married Alice Smith, and they maintain their home in Venice township; Lewis A. Armatage was united in marriage to Hannah Moore and lives in Venice township, residing on the home place; Ervin W. Armatage, who married Minnie Daugherty, resides in Venice township; Loreta Armatage, who is the wife of Albert Lanbach, resides in Venice township; and Etta J., is the mother of the subject of this review. Mrs. McKibben is nobly carrying on the work of rearing her children, and, as was her husband, is honored and respected wherever known.

Brantley B. McKibben, whose birth occurred on the 5th of May, 1884, availed himself of the advantages of the public schools of Tiffin and he was graduated in the high school at Attica as a member of the class of 1906. Thereafter he entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in the capacity of brakeman on the Toledo division. In 1908 he severed his connection with the railroad company in order to accept a position with the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Works at Akron, Ohio. After serving one year as traveling salesman for this concern he returned to the old homestead farm, to whose work and management he now devotes his entire time and attention. In politics he is aligned as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor and he is essentially progressive and public spirited in his civic attitude, giving his aid and influence in support of all measures and enterprises tending to advance the general welfare of the county. He is associated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character and he holds a secure vantage ground in popular confidence and esteem. He holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Tiffin, as do also his mother and his brothers and sisters.

ARTHUR BILLIARD—One of the popular and well-known citizens of Flat Rock is Arthur Billiard, who owns and operates a barber shop here. He was born June 4, 1877, in Leeds, York county, England, and is the son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Otter) Billiard. The birthdates of the parents were September 5, 1847 and September 8, 1847, respectively. The father was bound out at the age of fourteen to work on a farm until he became twenty-one. At the termination of this period he came to Leeds, England, where for a time he engaged as a longshoreman. He later secured a position as a transferman on a railroad, in which capacity he continued for a dozen years. He then came to America with his family, the time of the migration being June, 1882, when the subject was a young lad. The voyage was unusually stormy and they were nineteen days out owing to icebergs encountered. The newcomers first located at Baltimore, Maryland, but in a short time found it expedient to come on to Seneca county, where they located at Attica in Reed township. Near this village they rented a farm and resided upon it for a number of years, the mother dying meantime and leaving a husband and three children. In 1892, by the exercise of thrift, the father found himself in a position to buy an eighty acre farm, for which he and his sons paid in a short time. Mr. Billiard's brother, John W., a resident of Omar, Reed township, married Mrs. Effie Kantz, and his sister, Lily, wife of Joseph Nogles, of Attica, is the mother of two children, named Ruby and George.

The subject resided with his father until his twenty-fourth year, when he located at Clyde, and for one year was associated with Dr. E. W. Baker in the capacity of a driver. He then removed to Flat Rock and established a barber shop, which he has ever since conducted, building up a thriving and ever increasing patronage. On August 3, 1905, he laid the foundation of a happy home life by his marriage to Mabel Rubard, born November 23, 1885, the daughter of Dr. George and Anna (Burgner) Rubard, the father a native of Ohio and the mother of Indiana. The mother's parents, the Burgners, were natives of Switzerland, who left that country in 1794 and came down the River Rhine to Amsterdam, Holland, where they embarked for America, landing after the long voyages of those days, at the city of Philadelphia. There were three brothers, David, Christ and Peter, the latter being the great-grandfather of Mrs. Billiard. Her grandfather, Jacob Burgner, was the first of the name to come to Ohio, locating at Canton, Stark county, July 2, 1812. He made the journey by wagon, bringing his family with him, and being threatened by all the perils which beset the pioneer. They brought with them the old family Bible, weighing fifteen pounds, this volume having been purchased at Frankfort-on-the-Maine at a cost of fifty dollars. This, containing the family record, is now one of the treasures of the Richard's library of Fremont, Sandusky county.

Mrs. Billiard's father was born December 2, 1847, on the old family homestead near Thompson Center, the son of Edward and Eve (Harpster) Rubard, natives of New Jersey. Edward Rubard twice made the journey from New Jersey to Ohio, the

second time on foot. It is a rather romantic circumstance that when he first met his wife, whose name was Eva Harpster she did not understand the English language nor he the German, and they taught each other their respective languages. The mother of the subject's wife was born at Bluffton, Indiana, February 9, 1861, the names of her parents being David and Elizabeth (Cowels) Burgner. The father died shortly after her birth, on December 14, 1863, the mother surviving until July 2, 1902.

Dr. Rubard, who is one of the well known practitioners hereabouts, had excellent educational advantages, pursuing his preliminary medical studies under the tutelage of Dr. Sandmeister and graduating from the Cincinnati Medical College in February, 1871. He first located at Bellevue and he was married at Flat Rock, February 10, 1883. They have three children, Mrs. Billiard being the eldest. Her sister Gertrude is a stenographer and is located in Buffalo, New York, in the employ of the Erie Traction Company. William is in Indianapolis, where he is engaged as a chauffeur.

Mr. and Mrs. Billiard are the parents of two children: Harry Rubard, born March 23, 1906, and Gertrude, born June 16, 1909. Mr. Billiard is interested in public matters and his political faith is given to the Republican party. Mrs. Billiard is affiliated with the Evangelical church and is active in its good works. The subject's fraternal relations extend to the Woodmen of the World. He once taught penmanship, being skilled in this respect.

THOMAS F. BOLIG—Although Thomas F. Bolig is accounted one of Seneca county's successful agriculturists, he is comparatively new to this occupation, his career as a general farmer and stock raiser having covered a space of only about five years. Previous to that he worked at his trade, which was that of a carpenter, conducting a carpenter shop at Bellevue, and he spent several years in California engaged in carpentry. Mr. Bolig is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred July 31, 1871, in Middle Creek township, Snyder county, that state, his parents being Amos and Mary (Hummel) Bolig, also natives of the Keystone state, the father having been born in the year 1840 and the mother on the day preceding Christmas, 1849. The family were Lutheran in their religious belief, the paternal grandfather, Jacob, being one of the prominent members of the church in his section. The subject's maternal grandfather and grandmother were Andrew and Barbara (Mayer) Hummel, Pennsylvanians. Amos Bolig was a farmer, and his only child was he whose name initiates this article.

Mr. Bolig acquired his early education in the district schools of Snyder county, Pennsylvania, later attending the Pennsylvania Central College, from which he was graduated in 1891, and early in life he learned the trade of a carpenter. About the time that he attained his majority he came to Ohio, the date of his arrival within the boundaries of the Buckeye state being March 29, 1892. He located at Bellevue, and with an uncle, Theodore Dauberman, pursued the trade of carpentry. About a year thereafter he mar-



ried and for the following eight years continued at his trade, after which he conducted a blacksmith shop for four years. Mr. Bolig made a radical change by removing to the state of California, where he located at Los Angeles, and remained in the west for some three years, making a livelihood as a carpenter. The charms of the Buckeye state remained vividly in his memory, and in 1903 he returned with his family and took up the cultivation of an eighty acre farm inherited from his wife's parents. This tract is located in Thompson township and is the scene of successful operations in general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Bolig joined the ranks of the Benedicts on January 1, 1892, the lady to become his bride being Bertha E. Eberhard, born January 6, 1870, to George and Susan (Burgher) Eberhard, citizens of Ohio. George Eberhard was born October 26, 1834, in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, and is the son of George and Barbara Eberhard, who came to Ohio when the Indians were still numerous here. Their home was located across the road from an Indian hut, and the children of the family were delighted at having little redskins for playmates. When the father first came to the state there was only one house at Bellevue. The elder Eberhard secured large tracts of land from the government, one being located in Thompson township, Seneca county, and one near Bucyrus. George Eberhard resided upon the homestead until the demise of his parents, the father living to the ripe old age of ninety-three years. At the age of twenty-seven George married Susan Burgher, an Ohioan, born May 3, 1836, and they became the parents of three daughters. Tillie became the wife of William Bickel, of this township; Bertha married the subject; Catherine resides with her parents. Mr. Eberhard votes the Democratic ticket and he and his family are members of the Lutheran church. The issue of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bolig are Murray E., born July 3, 1893; Myrtle M., born February 2, 1895; and Fern L., born January 2, 1897. All are attending school and Fern received the township gold medal in a spelling contest.

Mr. Bolig gives political adherence to the Democratic party, although independent in his inclinations, believing that the best man and the best measure should be supported irrespective of party. He and his family belong to the Lutheran church and are to be numbered among the active members.

Upon the subject's farm is an oil well which furnishes oil of a superior quality, forty per cent better than the oil of Wood county, according to a Columbus expert.

WARREN H. HOPPLE is a son of Conrad Hopple, a pioneer in Seneca county, who came in 1833, when he was eleven years old, and contracted two hundred and twenty-five acres of land in Adams township at one dollar and a quarter an acre. The elder Hopple was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, a son of Conrad and Elizabeth (Fenner) Hopple, March 11, 1819. His son Warren has the old chest that he brought with him from Germany. Six years after his arrival here Conrad Hopple, the grandfather, died, and on the son Conrad (father of subject) devolved the responsi-

bility of making and paying for a farm. He took up his father's work where the latter laid it down and carried it forward to ultimate success. Conrad Hopple, Jr., died February 4, 1888. The mother is now living, at an advanced age, on the old homestead. She is now seventy-one years, having been born June 8, 1839, in Germany, a daughter of Henry and Barbara Brookholt. She came with her parents to America and they located on a farm of ninety acres in Scipio township. The family were connected with the Reformed church and her father was active in the management of its affairs. Conrad Hopple was married September 28, 1857, and became the father of seven children. Anna E., born August 21, 1858, married Fred Cook, of Scipio township; John, born June 2, 1859, lives in Adams township; William S. and Henry S., twins, were born May 2, 1860; Mary, born July 22, 1861, died when she was thirteen years old; Catharine J., born December 4, 1862, died October 21, 1889; Warren H., born December 2, 1874, is a member of his father's household. At her death in 1889, Catharine J., who had married, left a child then a week old, which was reared by its grandmother, Mrs. Conrad Hopple.

Mr. Hopple is a Democrat and a member of the Salem Reformed church. He is helpful in all local affairs which he deems of public moment. Among his relics of bygone days he cherishes a cane more than one hundred and fifty years old that one of his uncles carried in Germany.

JOSIAH H. YOUNG is one of the prominent and progressive citizens of Seneca county, being at the head of one of the large industries within its borders, the Young Tile and Brick Plant. This was the first concern of its kind in Adams township, having dated from the year 1881 and having successfully weathered three panics, it is now in a flourishing condition, turning out three hundred and sixty-four thousand tile and one hundred and fifty thousand bricks each year.

Josiah H. Young is a native son of this section. He was born December 5, 1852, in an old log cabin situated somewhere near the line between the townships of Adams and Pleasant. It was near here that he passed his boyhood and received his education in the school near Bunker Hill and at Greenspring. His parents were Charles and Mary C. (Spangler) Young, who were born in Germany. It seems almost incredible to the present-day traveler who makes the same voyage in less than a week that these good people were eighty days on the way, about fifteen of these being spent on a sand bar. They landed finally near Chesapeake Bay. Like so many of Seneca county's emigrants, the elder Mr. and Mrs. Young first settled in Maryland, and it was some years after their marriage that they came to the Buckeye state, two children having been born in the former state, these being by name Henry F. and Charles M. They bought land here which the father improved and upon the homestead thus established they reared a family of ten children. The eight who can claim Ohio as a birthplace are Lewis W., John P., George, Albert R., Josiah H., D. W., Edward A., and Minerva E., as it will be observed boys greatly

predominating in this family. The only daughter became the wife of Perry T. Perin, one of Greenspring's prominent citizens. Mr. Young's mother was one of a family of three children, of whom George Spangler of Dayton is a member.

On the 18th day of February, 1879, Mr. Young was married in Tiffin to Miss Caroline E. Schuster. The lady who became his wife was a native of Eden, Erie county, New York, her birthdate being July 3, 1856. She is the daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Hauck) Schuster, who were natives of the fatherland and who crossed the ocean to share in the opportunity of the new world. Mrs. Young who was educated in her home town and came to Ohio on a visit when she was about sixteen years of age and sometime afterward met her future husband, their wedding in 1879 being the sequel. Three children have been born to them, Ervin D., was born May 27, 1880, and is now in the brick and tile business at his father's old stand; Lura M., born May 11, 1888, receiving her education at Greenspring and for two years taught in the Adams township schools; and Howard R., born May 4, 1892, is in the brick and tile business with his brother in Adams township near Greenspring.

Ervin D. was married June 25, 1903, to Carrie E. Tannreuther, daughter of Fred and Gertrude (Ellinger) Tannreuther, she was born January 8, 1880. They are the parents of one child, Gertrude Carolyn, born October 20, 1905. Lura M., on June 19, 1909, became the wife of Lloyd E. Peddicord, a son of Marshall L. and Emma C. (Donelly) Peddicord, he was born October 2, 1884. They reside in Mansfield, where Mr. Peddicord is principal of the First Street school.

Mrs. Young is a member of the Evangelical church and is a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, in which organization for the promulgation of good she has held the office of vice president. In the matter of politics Mr. Young is an independent Democrat. He holds the confidence and esteem of his associates and has served eight years and nine months on the township board. He was elected to this trust by a strong majority and is the first Democrat to have been elected in this decidedly Republican township.

ADOLPH WILLIAM DEARSMAN—This prominent German-born citizen of Seneca county first saw the light of day in Westphalen, Prussia, February 18, 1840. His parents were Adolph William and Catharine (Elstroth) Dearsman, Prussians by birth and members of families long known there. He came to the United States in 1862, found his way to Seneca county, Ohio, and took up a farm of ninety acres in district number five, Adams township. In 1860 he married Catharine Stegemeyer, who was born in Prussia February 8, 1826. They had three children, Henry and William, and another who died in infancy. William married and lived until May 1, 1910, when he was killed by a horse. Henry had children named Fay, Ellis and Homer. William's children were named Preston, Lela, Vernon, Ethel and Ovid. Mr. Dearsman's present wife had by a former marriage the following children:



Mary, born May 24, 1866; Martha, November 6, 1867; and Jesse, May 12, 1874. Jesse married Lillie Westerhouse and they have children named Lola and Donald. Martha is the wife of William Westerhouse of Adams township. Mr. Dearsman's sons Henry and William were born respectively September 1, 1863 and September 21, 1866.

Mr. Dearsman is one of the model farmers of his vicinity, up-to-date in all that constitutes well advised tillage in this advanced age, when old methods are no longer practicable. In all important local affairs he takes great interest, and there is nothing tending to the benefit of any considerable number of his fellow citizens that does not find in him a ready advocate and a willing promoter. In politics he is a Democrat, at least so far as national or strictly political questions are concerned. In township affairs he favors good men for office, regardless of political affiliation. He has served as a member of the school board of Adams township, performing the duties of the office with admirable honesty and efficiency.

ORSON JOPP is one of Pleasant township's sterling men and progressive citizens. It was here that he was born, the date of his advent to this mundane sphere being March 20, 1855, and his parents being Luther S. and Emeline (Madison) Jopp. The subject's grandfather, Daniel H. Jopp, was a native of Winsted, Connecticut, born before the dawn of the nineteenth century, in 1791. When a lad about thirteen years of age he came to Ohio with his parents, settling in the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio. He removed to Thompson, New York, and was married there in the month of December to Mary Demond. He was a furrier and for a number of years also engaged in blacksmithing. After coming here he built a saw and carding mill, which he operated for several years. He was a public spirited man, interested in the development of the new country, and he assisted in the government survey of the Western Reserve. He died in 1849, and his widow survived until 1876. They reared a family of eleven sons and daughters and their names are revered by a large posterity.

Orson Jopp was one of two children, a sister, Lelia, residing at Greensprings. He lives upon the old Jopp homestead, a valuable tract of one hundred and twenty acres, and occupies the old residence, which is a landmark in the neighborhood. On September 14, 1876, he married Miss Florence Myers, born March 18, 1857, a daughter of John and Eunice (Walker) Myers, of Pleasant township. The wife's father was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1821, and his parents were Henry and Margaret (Bostwick) Myers, also natives of that place. They made several changes in their career, moving to New York, then to Erie county, and in 1836 to Sandusky county, where the father died in 1849. They were the parents of nine children. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Jopp are: Almeda, of Old Fort; Lydia, deceased; Almira, of Old Fort; Jane, of Ft. Seneca; Winfield, also deceased; Emma, of Ballville; and Florence, of Old Fort, while the living grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. John Myers number thirteen. The

identification of Mr. Myers with Pleasant township has existed since 1859, and soon after coming to this favored portion of Ohio he bought land and improved it and engaged successfully in agriculture for a great many years. He is an unswerving adherent of "The Grand Old Party" and has filled nearly all of the township offices, being a man who has always enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his associates.

Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Jopp and of them two are living at the present day, Blanche and Robert. Blanche is the wife of J. H. Beck, of this township, and Robert is at home, at present receiving his education in the schools of Greenspring. Mabel, John and Earl are deceased.

Mr. Jopp is an up-to-date agriculturist, a good citizen, and one who can be depended upon to support all just causes. He is a staunch Republican and has from time to time been rather active in politics, having filled various of the township offices.

CLARENCE J. FRY—A son of Orvin J. and Melissa (Decker) Fry, this influential citizen of Seneca county was born on the old Fry homestead in Pleasant township September 26, 1875. His father was born in Seneca county, his mother, in Sandusky county, Ohio, the former April 11, 1839, the latter December 1, 1845. Orvin J. Fry was a son of Philip H. and Elizabeth (King) Fry. His father was born in 1809. Melissa Decker was the daughter of B. F. and Catharine (Myers) Decker. Her father was born in 1818, her mother in 1822. Orvin J. Fry died February 27, 1904. His entire life was passed on the farm near Old Fort where he first saw the light of day.

The immediate subject of this sketch lived with his parents until he married and was ready to establish a home for himself and wife. He married Miss Mary E. Stiner in December, 1905. She was born July 8, 1885, a daughter of J. Q. and Laura (Boland) Stiner. Mr. and Mrs. Stiner, natives of Sandusky county, live in Bollville township on a farm. They are prominently identified with the United Brethren church near their home, in which Mr. Stiner holds the office of trustee. Mrs. Fry bore her husband a daughter, Lois M., July 1, 1907. She is a lady of many accomplishments, having been educated at the Old Fort high school. She was born July 8, 1885.

Mr. Fry is a Democrat and a member of the United Brethren church. He was educated in the common schools and at Heidelberg College, Tiffin Ohio, and has taught school in Pleasant and adjoining townships for six years. He has long been prominent in connection with local educational affairs and is a member of the school board of his township. He also holds the office of township trustee.

Orvin J. Fry was influential in a political way. During the last few years of his life he was a populist.

JOHN G. BONNELL—Firm in the esteem of his numerous friends in this community is John G. Bonnell, a Civil war veteran, who witnessed some of the most stirring scenes in that great con-

flict, and the owner of one hundred and sixty of the fair acreage of Seneca county, on which he has for many years maintained a hospitable and attractive home. Although he has lived in Ohio nearly all his life he is a native of Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in that part of the Keystone state on April 10, 1834. At the age of seven years, however, he came here with his parents who located on an eighty acre farm in Pleasant township, the country then being very new and Mr. Bonnell experienced many of the peculiarly interesting and strenuous experiences of the pioneer, although the Bonnells were by no means of the first who came to claim the Buckeye state from the wilderness. The parents of the subject were William and Margaret A. (Buiter) Bonnell. The father was a son of John Bonnell, of Pennsylvania, and the mother was a daughter of George Buiter, a native of Germany, who came to this country with his parents, Mr. Bonnell, thus being to a remote degree of Teutonic stock.

The early years of Mr. Bonnell were spent upon his father's farm in Pleasant township and it was there that he came to the decision to follow in the paternal footsteps in the matter of a vocation. On March 15, 1857, Mr. Bonnell laid the foundation of a happy and congenial married life by his union with Catharine E. Gettinger, a daughter of Daniel and Jane (Dutrow) Gettinger, natives of Maryland, who came to the state at an early date and located in Adams township on the Portland Road. Mrs. Bonnell was born February 6, 1836, and is bound by many ties to Seneca county, where she has lived all her life. She is one of the valued members of the Methodist church.

Mr. Bonnell for the first few years after his marriage resided upon and cultivated rented land. Upon the breaking out of the Civil war he came to his country's aid, joining Company I, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under Captain M. M. Barns. He went into camp at Monroeville, Ohio, being first transferred to Covington, Kentucky, and then to Louisville, that state. With the Fourth Corps he marched from Atlanta, Georgia, to Nashville, Tennessee, and then to North Carolina, being two years and ten months in service. After the declaration of peace he returned home and purchased a farm of eighty acres, clearing it and bringing it to a high state of fertility. It is here that his present home is maintained. About fourteen years ago he erected a fine house on this farm and removed to it, his son George residing in the dwelling vacated. Mr. Bonnell is a Republican in his political convictions, but is liberal minded enough to vote for other policies if he believes them to be just. His record as a public servant is good, he having held the office of township trustee and member of the school board for a number of years. As a member of the Grand Army of the Republic he maintains the old relations with the comrades of other days.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bonnell. The eldest, Anna A., became the wife of John Strickland, of Clinton township, and is the mother of four children: Rollins, George, Myrtle and Hallie; Margaret married Ivan Goettschius, of Clinton township, and has two sons, named George and Ray; George R., married



Ella Miller, daughter of A. J. Miller, of Pleasant township, and they reside on the home farm adjacent to that of the former's father; Frederick, the youngest child, died when only nine years of age.

JOHN HOLTZ.—The name of John Holtz is one which is generally respected in the community where its owner is best known and to which he is bound by many ties made in the course of a useful and active life. He is a native son of Seneca county, his birth having occurred in Pleasant township on February 15, 1850. His citizenship has always been of the highest character, for he has always assisted in no uncertain manner in the furtherance of all those measures which he believed likely to prove beneficial to the whole community. The parentage and ancestry of Mr. Holtz is extremely interesting and on the maternal side is found one Phillip Feaga who so desired to become a citizen of the United States (about-to-be) that he deserted from the Hessian army and joined the ranks of the colonists, fighting for the cause of independence with the greatest of enthusiasm and self sacrifice. When he fully realized his probable fate should his defection be discovered by his former government, he changed his name from Fiege to Feaga, to escape detection and his descendants have ever since been thus known. They have as well inherited that unusually bright admiration for the land of the stars and strips which burned in the breast of their forbear to the point of his risking his life to be able to pay fealty to it. It is possible that the bonny eyes of some fair Colonial maiden increased the natural courage of the adventurous young Hessian, at any rate he married in America and became the father of children whose descendants became excellent American citizens.

The parents of Mr. Holtz were Jacob P. and Susan (Huss) Holtz, both of whom were natives of Maryland who came to Ohio in the earlier half of the nineteenth century. The date of the father's arrival in the new state was about 1834, but the mother preceded him by about two years, coming with her parents, David and Nancy (Umsted) Huss, and when she arrived in Ohio the present site of Tiffin was a tract covered with trees and swamps, upon which no effort of imagination could have called up the existing beautiful city.

The Holtz family were agricultural people and they became landowners and the early years of John Holtz were passed upon his father's farm in section 36, Pleasant township. He attended the district school and under the excellent tutelage of his father was initiated into the secrets of successful farming and the surest methods of coaxing Mother Nature to productiveness. He obtained his education in the district schools and this he has since amply supplemented on his own account, his general knowledge and information being extensive. He resided with his parents until his marriage, this happy event being celebrated September 26, 1883, the lady to become his wife and the mistress of his household being Miss Lucinda B. Corthell, whose birth was on September 11, 1858. Mrs. Holtz' parents were George and Susan (Engler)

Corthell, the father of Rockland, Maine, and the mother of Maryland, who had come to Ohio at an early day and had given good measure of assistance in the development of the state. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Holtz has been blessed by the birth of one child, a daughter, named Fanny, born February 26, 1885. Mrs. Holtz died on May 18, 1889, her untimely demise being a matter of deep regret to the whole community, and Miss Fanny now presides over her father's household in the most efficient manner. She has enjoyed the educational advantages of the district schools and Heidelberg College at Tiffin.

Subsequent to his marriage Mr. Holtz built his home across the road from the family homestead in which he had spent his youth, and after residing some time in the new location, went back and still resides on the older Holtz place. In politics he is an independent Republican, having inclinations towards the Grand Old Party, but still believing that mere partisanship should not outweigh other considerations or prevent the inspection of a current issue from all sides. He has given fine service as township trustee for seven years. He is one of the prominent Masons of Ohio, having attained to the thirty-second degree and having held many of the chairs. He is a man who has made his own way and has always been hard working and thrifty, and he touches the life of the community from all points.

LEROY M. FRONTZ—The hope of Seneca county is founded upon its young men and women. Among them are the influential citizens of the future; among them may be numbered some who will eventually enjoy far more than local reputation. A young man of undeniably excellent promise is Leroy M. Frontz, whose years are among the fewest of the native sons of Seneca county to find record in these volumes. He was born December 10, 1892, and is therefore within several years of the attainment of his majority. His birthplace was a log house, which stands a reminder of early days upon the homestead of Samuel Metzger, the son of Alfred and Lavina (Metzger) Frontz.

Mr. Frontz has taken advantage of the excellent educational facilities offered by Seneca county. His preliminary education was secured in the district schools and in 1907, at the age of fifteen, he passed the Boxwell examination. Later he became enrolled in the Republic High School and is at present in attendance there. He has always resided with his parents upon the farm and has also had an excellent training in the various departments of agriculture. His church membership is with the Detterman Trinity Evangelical church and he is identified with the many good causes advanced and fathered by that institution.

He enjoys the respect and confidence not only of the younger generation of which he is a part, but as truly of the older, for his character is of high moral standard and his habits exemplary. He has a well trained mind and an interesting personality.

Mr. Frontz is the youngest in a family of three children, his sisters being: Mrs. Daniel Weiker, of Adams township, Seneca county, and Mrs. E. T. Clark, of Sandusky county, Ohio. His

paternal grandfather, Samuel Frontz, was born near Buffalo, New York, and was a veteran of the Civil war, he having served four years in the same and was mustered out in 1865. Grandfather Metzger was born in Union county, Pennsylvania, in 1813. He came to Ohio in 1815 with his parents, and they settled near Circleville, in Pickaway county. They removed to Seneca county later, where his father, Jacob, took from the government the tract of land known as the Metzger homestead. Later he removed to Sandusky county where he died in 1893. The grandmother, Rebecca (Heltzel) Metzger, was born in Hardy county, Virginia, in 1812. She came to Ohio with her parents when a child and was married in 1836, in Pickaway county, Ohio. She was the mother of five children, three sons and two daughters. She died in Sandusky county on June 5, 1891. The subject's mother was the youngest of the family, she was born November 22, 1849, and was married to Alfred Frontz at Greenspring August 26, 1875.

FRANK C. SONNER, one of Seneca county's most prosperous agriculturists and valuable citizens, is a native Virginian, his birth having occurred in the Old Dominion on August 26, 1874. On the paternal side he is of Irish and English extraction. He is the son of R. W. and Sarah (Bowman) Sonner, both of whom were likewise natives of that charming and historic state. The father served four years in the Confederate army under General Jackson. He was a musician and the family were slave owners prior to the war.

In 1894, when Mr. Sonner had not yet attained his majority, he came to Ohio and, attracted by Seneca county, located here, working for local agriculturists by the month. In 1900 he found himself in a position to marry and chose as the lady to preside over his household Miss Cecile Myers, the ceremony which made them one being solemnized on August 22, 1900.

Mrs. Sonner, who is the daughter of Oscar Myers, a sketch of whom appears on other pages of this volume, was born November 11, 1880, in Adams township. The scene of her birth was the old Myers homestead which had been entered by her grandfather in the early half of the nineteenth century and the deed for which, signed by Andrew Jackson, is one of her father's most prized possessions. Its parchment has well withstood the lapse of time. Mr. Myers is one of the most prominent and influential farmers in the township and is interested in numerous business interests, among them saw milling, automobiles, apiaries, etc. Mrs. Sonner was educated in the Greenspring Academy and finished a business course with the class of 1898.

Mr. Sonner received his education in the schools of his native state. He is a loyal Democrat and gives his enthusiastic support to that party. He has numerous lodge relations and finds no small amount of pleasure and profit in them. These affiliations extend to the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. In the Knights of Pythias he holds the office of vice chancellor. Shortly after their marriage, about ten years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Sonner took up their residence upon a farm owned by the latter's father





RESIDENCE OF FRANK C. SONNER



and they have ever since successfully engaged in its cultivation. They have three hundred and sixty-four acres of land and an elegant home. They enjoy a large circle of acquaintances in Seneca county. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Sonner are: Enid Mar, born August 4, 1904, and Marjorie Jane, born March 10, 1910.

OSCAR MYERS is one of the representative citizens of Seneca county and his activities and interests touch the life of this favored portion of the great state of Ohio at many different points. He is a large landholder, a successful agriculturist, has a good sized apiary in connection with his farm, supplies Greenspring with ice and is one of the exponents of the great automobile industry, conducting a large garage in the town, while in addition he is well known in connection with public and political affairs. He is the son of the late John Myers, who for many years was one of Seneca county's leading citizens. Oscar Myers was born October 9, 1856, in Adams township, and is thus a native son of the locality in which he now plays such an important role. His father is a native of Virginia, born November 6, 1808, and his mother, whose name previous to her marriage was Elizabeth Rine, was a Pennsylvanian, her birth occurring in 1814.

When John Myers was a young man he came to the Buckeye state and secured from the government one hundred and sixty acres of land, then a part of the virgin forest, which with mighty effort he cleared and brought to a high state of cultivation. He first cleared a place to raise his log cabin and here were born his two children, Oscar and his elder sister, Catherine. The deed giving him a right to the land and signed by Andrew Jackson, who was president of the United States at the time of the transaction, is preserved and one of the most highly prized heirlooms of his son, Oscar Myers. The father became a man of substance and influence, adding to his original land until his holdings were three hundred and sixty-four acres, and in addition he owned a large amount of town property, consisting of some four blocks. He was a stalwart Democrat and played an important role in pioneer affairs and he was deeply regretted when he died, July 2, 1891.

Oscar Myers was reared upon his father's farm, and received his education in the common schools of the locality. Until some time after his father's death he resided upon the old homestead, conducting agricultural matters and also running a saw mill. His residence in Greenspring dates from about nine years ago and his success within its pleasant limits justifies him in making this his permanent home. Although living in town he finds it possible to direct his farming and apiary interests from long range, at the same time conducting his ice and automobile business in town.

Mr. Myers was married December 17, 1876, to Emma Gibbons, who was born March 28, 1857, to William and Jane (Stiwell) Gibbons. To their union were born three children, Frank, Cecil and Ethel, all of whom have achieved useful citizenship. Frank who is a resident of Clyde and engaged in the show business, is married to Alta Hughes and has one child, Harold Oscar. Cecil



became the wife of Frank C. Sonner and they and their daughters, Enid M. and Margery, reside upon the old Myers' homestead. Ethel is located at the same place, and has been teaching school for the past two years.

On December 29, 1904, Mr. Myers was a second time married, wedding Minnie Witte. Mrs. Myers, who was born June 18, 1867, is the daughter of John and Sophie (Brockmann) Witte, both natives of Germany. They sought a new home in the United States when Mrs. Witte was a child about three years of age and they subsequently came on to the Buckeye state, locating at Fremont.

Mr. Myers gives his heart and hand to the men and measures of the Democratic party and plays an active part in partisan matters, and he has likewise given public service of a distinguished character, always furthering those policies which he believes likely to result in the greatest good to the greatest number. He is the friend of good education and is at present and has for some time been a member of the Central Committee. As before mentioned, the Myers' honey and ice are important commodities in Greenspring and the large garage erected by him in 1909 is one of the important acquisitions of the town. He is a lodge man and takes great pleasure in his fraternal relations, which extend to the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen, he having filled all the chairs and in the former having held the rank of past chancellor for the past fifteen years. Mr. Myers believes in being familiar with one's own country and is an extensive traveler, the scenes of his pilgrimages having been chiefly throughout the west and southwest.

HIRAM ZIMMERMAN was born January 24, 1855, a son of Jacob and Catharine (Rapp) Zimmerman, natives respectively of Maryland and of Ohio. His parents located in Pleasant township where his father had a farm and a sawmill. He was reared and educated in Pleasant township and was a member of his parents' household until his marriage. He married Emma J. Flory September 3, 1882. She was born June 17, 1865, a daughter of Joseph and Rachel (McConnell) Flory, who had lived in Liberty township since 1862, when they were married. Her grandparents were Jacob and Mattie (Leicher) Flory, Pennsylvanians who came to Wayne county, Ohio, where her grandfather, who was a cooper, worked at his trade and farmed.

To Hiram and Emma J. (Flory) Zimmerman have been born six children, of whom the following brief mention is offered: Catharine E. died in infancy. Flora L., born July 6, 1885, married Alva Kustler, of Trumbull county, and has a daughter, Martha E., born January 10, 1908. Another daughter married Willis Hade, of Scipio township, and has a son, Russell E., born February 16, 1909. Margaret E., born November 24, 1889, is living with her parents. She qualified for teaching school and has taught with distinguished success. Joseph E., born June 12, 1891, assists his father in the management of his farm. His youngest son, Paul C., died in infancy.

Mr. Zimmerman is a successful farmer because he is up to date in all things pertaining to his business. He is a friend of education and a man of great public spirit, who is ready at any time to assist to the extent of his ability any movement which in his opinion promises good to any considerable number of his fellow citizens. He has pronounced political convictions, but has no desire to figure in public life. While adhering to the policies of his party in matters of national importance, he believes that local interests are best served by the election of honorable men of good judgment to office irrespective of party affiliation. Yet he never forgets that he is a Democrat. He is a member of St. Jacob's Reformed church. He moved from Pleasant township to Adams township three years ago.

GEORGE FRANK STIGAMIRE.—The parents of this citizen were Stephen and Elizabeth (Schaberg) Stigamire, natives of Germany, who came to the United States in 1836 and arrived at Baltimore June 3 of that year, after a five weeks' voyage. In their overland journey the father walked all the way from Baltimore, the mother every alternate day till they reached Mansfield, Ohio, and from Mansfield on to Bloomville, Seneca county, every day. It may well be imagined they were glad beyond words to reach their destination after such long and arduous hardship. They located on Honey Creek, west of Bloomville, on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and cleared thirty-two acres of timber and put it under cultivation. After residing on this farm for six years they moved to Adams township, Seneca county, where the husband bought a farm of eighty acres and they were able to eventually make for themselves a good farm and home. They were members of the Evangelical church zealous for its advancement and helpful to all its interests according to their means and opportunities. Mr. Stigamire was one of the founders of the church of that denomination at Detterman settlement in Adams township. He was a friend of public education also, but it was to the church and to evangelical work that he was most devoted.

George F. Stigamire was born April 7, 1862, was educated in district school and was instructed in farming by his father. He was a member of his parents' household till his marriage. He married Katie Shadley May 23, 1886. Miss Shadley was a daughter of Jacob and Agatha (Steibley) Shadley, natives respectively of France and of Switzerland. She was born December 10, 1862. Her parents came to the United States in 1847 and settled in Michigan. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stigamire took up their home on a farm of seventy-three acres which he bought. He has given his attention mostly to general farming and has achieved a noteworthy success. He is a member of the Evangelical church, generously helpful to all its work. Since 1892 he has been a trustee of this organization, and he has been leader and assistant superintendent of its Sunday school. He is a Democrat in his politics, strongly inclined to independence. He is a Junior and is trustee of his local division of that order. He is a good judge of stock and has bred some of which any stockman might be proud.

A reader and a thinker, he has the reputation of being one of the best informed men in the township on all subjects of general interest. Mr. and Mrs. Stigamire have a daughter, Ruth, born April 20, 1893, who is attending school at Greenspring and who successfully passed the Boxwell examination at the early age of fifteen.

WILLIAM DUDROW, JR., is the worthy inheritor of a worthy name and is a veterinary surgeon, practicing successfully in Greenspring. A native son of Adams township, he was born November 18, 1884, and is the son of William and Adelle (Crockett) Dudrow. His paternal grandparents were David and Mary (Rule) Dudrow, the former of whom, a native of Maryland, having founded the family in Ohio was among the first settlers in the locality. The mother of the subject is a representative of another fine pioneer family, and is related to the Wallaces and Sherricks, whose names figure prominently in the history of the early days. Some of the Wallaces were killed by Indians and there were valiant Crocketts in the war of 1812 and the Revolutionary war. Mr. and Mrs. William Dudrow Sr. were married in 1881 and became the parents of the subject and of a daughter named Mary, who resides with her parents. The father is an agriculturist in Adams township and is a prominent and much esteemed man.

William Dudrow enjoyed the fullest advantages of the educational opportunities offered by the county, attending the district schools, passing the Boxwell examinations at Tiffin and attending the Greenspring high school. Having assisted his father for a year in the stock shipping business he concluded to adopt the profession of a veterinary surgeon and to this end went to Grand Rapids, where he matriculated in the veterinary department of the Medical College of Michigan, from which institution he was graduated in the spring of 1910, with the well earned degree of D. V. M. He hung out his shingle at Greenspring and has met with general recognition in the brief period of his career.

William Dudrow Jr. became the head of a household of his own on October 1, 1905, the lady to become his wife being Eunice E. Perin, born January 16, 1885, her parents being W. T. and Bessie (Pool) Perin. The Perin family, originally from England, came to Ohio early in the nineteenth century and located in Sandusky county. John Perin, of England, founded the family in the United States. Ira Pool, Mrs. Dudrow's grandfather, was in the Civil war, having enlisted with Company K, and became first lieutenant of the Fifty-second Ohio Regiment. He was wounded and died on his way home from Nashville in 1862.

CHARLES DETTERMAN.—The parents of this well known citizen were Harmon and Rachel (Farmer) Detterman, natives of Germany, and he was born January 7, 1856. His grandparents were pioneers in Bloom township, at Melmore, on Honey Creek, his grandfather having walked to that point from Cleveland. His father fought for the stars and stripes in the Civil war in the Forty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in which he enlisted in 1862. He died of measles in the service and is buried in a



government cemetery. Rachel Farmer was reared and educated in Kenton, Hardin county, Ohio. Her mother was Anna Beigh, daughter of Benjamin and Catharine (Dollman) Beigh, natives respectively of Germany and of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Detterman was married February 10, 1880, and has one child, Wade Hampton, born May 7, 1889, who was educated in local schools and has taken up the profession of teaching. He is a member of several secret societies which meet at Tiffin, the headquarters of his several lodges. Mr. Detterman is a Democrat in his political affiliations. In local affairs he is active and helpful. He was for a time a member of the township school board. He is identified with St. Jacob's Reformed church, of which he was a trustee four years. He has lived on his farm in Adams township about sixteen years, and is regarded as one of the model farmers of his neighborhood. His farm consists of eighty acres and is well improved, with modern accessories of all kinds. His success in life has been won by honesty and industry and his course is often referred to as a worthy example to those of a later generation who are just taking on responsibilities which they should bear with good judgment and with determination to win surely but worthily.

HENRY H. DROWN.—One of Seneca county's representative citizens is Henry H. Drown, a man of versatile talents who has made a success of many lines of endeavor,—such as general agriculture, produce, stock buying and selling, hardware and real estate. In the capacity of a public spirited benefactor he has served the interests of the community well and one of his most notable achievements was his assisting in securing the right of way for the Nickle Plate Railroad. Although from time to time Mr. Drown has made a change of residence and has engaged in business in other states, he has always paid Seneca county the compliment of returning.

Mr. Drown was born September 29, 1839, and is the son of Solomon and Fannie (Dennis) Drown, natives respectively of Maine and New Hampshire. They were married in New England, but came to Ohio in 1836 and took up their residence on Butternut Ridge in Adams township, Seneca county, where they farmed until his death in 1858. Solomon Drown was a good business man as well as a judicious agriculturist and he finally became the possessor of a fine six hundred acre farm. He was a man much respected in the community and his advice was greatly sought in public matters. He was active in politics and he was the champion of good education and the building of schools. He was a Whig and later, upon the organization of that party, became a Republican. He was married twice, first to Betsy Hatch and afterward to Fanny Dennis, who bore him the following nine children: Dennis, Charlotte, D. C., J. B., Rebecca, J. R., Lucy J., Henry H. and Elvira.

Mr. Drown was educated in the district schools, and upon his father's farm received his training in the most successful methods of the great industry of agriculture. He resided upon the old homestead until his father died and engaged in farming until he was about twenty-three years of age. His first venture far afield

was when he went to the state of Illinois and his stay there was of six months' duration. He returned to Ohio and in Green Creek township bought eighty acres of land, upon which he began operations in the produce business and proved sufficiently successful. He then took up the buying and selling of stock. He again decided to try his fortunes in another locality and removed his goods and chattels to Iowa, where, in Liscomb, Marshall county, he engaged in a hitherto untried line of endeavor, the hardware business. This was a new settlement and it was his distinction to build the first business house in the town, which property he subsequently exchanged for a farm of one hundred and forty acres located near the town, and received in addition some six hundred dollars. He again returned to Seneca county, making the journey from Liscomb, Iowa, a distance of one thousand miles, driving a span of colts, and during the entire trip having slept in a house but two nights. He proceeded to dispose of his Iowa property, getting in exchange the farm known as the Chapen farm and located in Green Creek township, Sandusky county, the said tract consisting of about sixty-five acres. He was also the possessor of two hundred acres on the county line. Again he followed his inclination for change, and disposing of this property bought two hundred and forty-five acres in Pleasant township, Seneca county. He at once assumed a position of importance in the locality where he and his family were so well known, and it was about this time that he assisted in securing right of way for the Nickel Plate Railroad through the section, which has proved of immeasurable value and advantage to those effected. He was also in the employ of Smith & Company, buying stock, wool, etc., for them, and managed his own farm meantime.

In 1886 the love of change which has ever seemed to be innate in Mr. Drown again asserted itself and he removed to Wichita, Kansas, and in this thriving city he engaged in the hardware and real estate business. This again was a new departure. In his two years in the Jayhawker state he built three large business houses, and otherwise had dealings of an important character. Again his native Seneca county drew him as the magnet draws the steel and he came back to engage for a time in the wool business, in which he had previously achieved success. A few years later he retired from life of such an active character as that in which he had previously been engaged, having an ample competence and being well justified in enjoying its comforts in greater leisure. He is a large landowner, possessing hundreds of acres in this and other states. One of his properties is a drug store in Logan, Kansas, which is operated by his grandson, Earl Drown. He is of a social nature and finds no small amount of pleasure and profit in his lodge relations, which extend to the Masonic fraternity and to the Knights of Pythias.

When eighteen years of age, in 1858, Mr. Drown married Susan Hihlman, of Seneca county. They had one child, Melville W., born in July, 1859 and died in April, 1900. He studied to be a Physician, being educated in the Medical College at St. Joe, Missouri, and also at St. Louis, and he practiced his profession at

Lenora, Norton county, Kansas. He took as his wife Mabel Emery in 1882 and seven children were born to their union of whom only two are living. They are Earl M., who married Blanche Eckerman, and Dale, who resides with them.

On the 6th day of August, 1863, when he was twenty-three years of age, Mr. Drown married Miss Barbara H. Stephens, of Castalia, born November 27, 1838, in Dundee, Scotland. She is the daughter of Alexander and Jessie (Grant) Stephens, natives of Scotland, who left the land of the thistle to seek better fortunes in America in 1839. They resided in New York city for three years and went from that metropolis to Canada, where they stayed but a short time, then going to Detroit, from Detroit to Huron, Michigan, thence to Monroeville, and thence to Castalia, Erie county, Ohio, in which latter town he settled permanently and engaged in business, his death occurring some twenty-eight or thirty years thereafter. A family of children were born to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Drown. Mary, born February 15, 1865, became the wife of F. A. Burress, of California, and they have one child, Harold Drown Burress. Mrs. Burress was a teacher and the principal of the Wichita city schools for fifteen years before she married. Mr. Drown's second child is Jessie G., who was born August 16, 1866, and is now engaged in teaching in Cleveland. She received her education in the Greenspring Academy, graduating with the class of 1885, supplementing this with literary and scientific courses. She is a successful teacher, standing high in her chosen profession, and having had fourteen years' experience in Wichita, Kansas, and seven as one of the teaching staff in the Halle school located at Cleveland. The third child, Myrtle, was born September 20, 1867, her short life being terminated by death July 19, 1887. The fourth child, Elmer L., was born July 13, 1874. He has been twice married, his first wife, Catherine Schwan, dying August 6, 1900. They had three children: Howard H., born February 14, 1897; Willard G., born May 12, 1898; and Helen, born October 25, 1899. He married Ruth Woody, of Wichita, Kansas, in 1901. She was a teacher in the public schools there for a number of years. Elmer Drown is a business man of Greenspring and is very prominent in all of its affairs.

ELMER E. NEIKIRK, a general dry goods merchant, is one of Greenspring's most progressive business men and his career in good citizenship has contributed in great measure to the growth and prosperity of the town. The founding of few American families can be traced to an earlier period than that of the Neikirks, one Guerb Cornilissen Von Menckereke Garret Cornelius Neikirk, having sailed across the seas with his wife, son and small babe in the good ship Moesman and landed at New Amsterdam in the month of April, 1659. As his name very clearly indicates he was of that solid Dutch stock from which so many of the most prominent of Americans have descended, this including a certain illustrious ex-president of the United States.

Mr. Neikirk was born October 25, 1865, at Republic, Ohio, and is the son of Martin H. and Margareta Fry Neikirk, who were mar-



ried on Christmas Day, 1862, at Republic, Ohio. The ancestry can be traced in an unbroken line from the above mentioned emigrant to these shores. The father, Martin H., was the son of Henry H. and Catherine Neikirk, the former being descended from Ezra Neikirk and he being the son of Samuel, who was the son of Joseph, who was born in 1804. This great-great-grandfather, Joseph, was the son of Michael and Catherine Pence Neikirk, and the former was a son of one John Neikirk, who resided at Sharon, Pennsylvania. John was the son of George N., who was the son of Tenis S., who was born at Princeton, New Jersey, he being the son of Abraham N., born in 1723 in that state. Abraham's father was Henry, born in 1690, and Henry was the son of Arien and Elizabeth Huyberts Brink Neikirk, who was the son of the previously mentioned ancestor who came to these shores only about a generation after the landing of the Pilgrims, his birth having occurred in Holland in the year 1630. The mother of Mr. Neikirk was the daughter of Enoch and Rhoda (Wolf) Fry, natives of Maryland, who resided in Seneca county, Ohio, near Republic.

Elmer E. Neikirk was educated in the district schools of Scipio township and later entered Heidelberg College at Tiffin, where he attended for two years. Being naturally inclined towards a commercial career, he took a business course at Fostoria and subsequently engaged in the grocery business. He sold this after a time and went to Tiffin, where he was first identified with the dry goods trade, in which he was ultimately to experience such entire success. He remained in Tiffin for four years, gaining golden experience, and then returned to Greenspring, where he entered into dry goods fields in partnership with C. L. Smith and has been thus engaged for twenty years, the firm being known as Smith & Neikirk. A steady and wholesome growth has been experienced and the firm now conducts one of the important enterprises of this locality.

Mr. Neikirk is a staunch and loyal Democrat and has filled the offices of treasurer and councilman for several terms, his zeal for advancement and his advocacy of all those measures likely to result in the attainment of the greatest good to the greatest number making his services of particular value. He is an enthusiastic lodge man and holds membership in the Masonic order and with the Knights of Pythias, and in both of these he has filled many of the chairs. These associations are fruitful of much pleasure and profit and have greatly added to his acquaintanceship. Mr. Neikirk's executive talents are such that he has energy for other enterprises than his dry goods trade. For example he is one of the founders of the local telephone company, is one of the managers and at present holds the office of secretary.

Mr. Neikirk in no relation appears in a more admirable light than in his championship of good education and of everything designed to benefit the town in which his affections and interests are centered. He belongs to the Methodist church and here also he is a power for good. On April 24, 1894, he laid the foundation of a happy home life by his marriage to Miss Mary R. Turner, born January 18, 1876, at Greenspring, the daughter of James and Hannah Turner.

CHARLES J. YOUNG is engaged with his father in the furniture and undertaking business, their thriving business being known under the firm name of A. R. Young & Son. The Youngs, father and son, are among the most progressive in their line in the state and they do a very large business. He whose name initiates this sketch was born March 5, 1876, and is a native son of the town of Greenspring. Likewise his parents, Albert and Ida J. (Miller) Young, were natives of Ohio, but his grandfather and his wife, Charles and Mary (Spangler) Young, came from Rhenish Bavaria, locating first in Baltimore and subsequently coming on to Ohio. Thus that excellent German element whose value is everywhere recognized enters into the composition of Charles J. Young. His father lived for a time in Dayton, where he pursued the vocation of a carpenter, but finally located in Greenspring, where he has built up a substantial and ever-growing business and where he has obtained recognition as one of the sound men of the town.

Mr. Young received his education in the schools of Greenspring. When still of tender years he began to assist his father in his business and his efficiency was of such high character that he soon made himself indispensable. Good taste, elegance and the most modern ideas are manifest in the conduct of mortuary affairs by the Youngs, and everything that science has discovered in this line they have made theirs.

Mr. Young early in life established a household of his own. Catherine Crockett, daughter of Edward and Eliza Brown Crockett, among the best known of Seneca county's citizens, became his wife, their union being celebrated November 20, 1895. Mrs. Young was born March 26, 1877, and was educated in public schools. A son and a daughter are growing up beneath their roof, Albert E., named for his paternal grandfather, having been born July 17, 1897, and Alice C., who first saw the light of day on January 29, 1907. A complete account of the various families referred to in this sketch will be found on other pages of this work.

Mr. Young is loyal to the Democratic party, and he served two terms as city treasurer and one term as assessor.

ELIZA (BROWN) CROCKETT was born June 19, 1839, the daughter of Elijah and Catherine (Sherrick) Brown, the former born in 1806, in Maryland, and the latter a Pennsylvanian. These worthy pioneers came to Ohio in a covered wagon, making the journey over the Cumberland Road to Adams township in the year 1841, when Eliza was still a baby. — Elijah entered land with his brother Jonas in that year, this being entered for their mother, Catherine Sherrick, who was a shining example of the highest and noblest type of pioneer woman. She was born July 5, 1811, and her marriage to Elijah Brown was solemnized in 1833. She became the mother of children who were by name: Henry, William, Eliza (who became the wife of J. Crockett), Ann, Miller, Mary A., Theodore and Samuel. When she passed on to her reward December 3, 1909, at the age of ninety-nine years, she had also twelve grandchildren; fifteen great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

When, in 1841, Elijah brought his family by wagon from the

old home in Frederick, Maryland, he left the mother and children with a neighbor-to-be while he built the house for them. The country was at that early period in the nineteenth century an unbroken wilderness and the Indians were very numerous. Amicable relations existed between the settlers and the redskins, and these early days, in spite of hard work and many hardships, were happy and interesting. Elijah Brown and his good and faithful wife had been converted in their youth to the Methodist Episcopal faith and they were very consistent in living up to its principles. The minister was always welcome at their home, and indeed their hospitality was open to all who came that way, no one ever being turned away from its portals.

Catherine, the wife, was skilled in all the homely and useful arts of the early days. She carded and spun the wool and wove it into cloth in which to clothe her husband and little ones. She made linen, breaking the flax plant and developing it in the intricate process which is required to attain the finished product and finally made strong and beautiful thread to be woven into garments by herself and her neighbors. She knew how to weave fine baskets of willow and when upon rare occasions she sat down to rest she occupied her time and her capable hands with this basket weaving.

Eliza Brown, daughter of the above mentioned couple, married Edward Crockett. During his life time he was one of the prominent and much respected farmers of Adams township. He was a man of fine appearance and upright character and he was honored by all who knew him. His birth occurred in Pleasant township November 22, 1833, he being the son of James and Mary P. (Haskell) Crockett. He was married September 13, 1858, and he and his wife became the parents of ten children. These were Adelle, Harry, Catherine, Elijah, Charles, Metta, Mabel, Alice, Theodore and Frank. Frank, Theodore and Charles are deceased. The father died in the year 1908, regretted by all who knew him, and his widow still resides on the homestead, where she is one of the most honored and admired of women.

Frank Crockett, son of Edward and Eliza, died on December 4, 1880, his years being few. It is safe to say that no young man in the county was more heartily esteemed or more dearly loved than he. He promised to become a successful man, and he had been educated at the Academy of Greenspring, passing with honors. The following is a record of the other sisters and brothers: Adelle is the wife of William Dudrow, of Greenspring. Metta married Frank Wolfe and resides in San Jose, California. Harry married Effie Heightshu and they make their home in Clyde. Catherine is the wife of Charles Young of Greenspring. Elijah married Maud Swagert and with his family makes his home in Ashtabula. Mabel resides in San Jose, California, with her sister. Alice remains with her mother at home.

Thus the descendants of those plucky and upright pioneers, Elijah and Catherine Brown, perpetuate their memory in more than one quarter of Ohio, and beyond its borders, and the good



qualities, the high ideals of citizenship, which appear in these later generations, may be a heritage from them. Ohio never grows tired of the pioneer pages of her history.

CHARLES S. BARON.—A splendid representative of the energetic and progressive young business men of Seneca county, Charles S. Baron is prominently identified with the advancement of the industrial interests of Tiffin, being general manager of the Ohio Lantern Company, which located its factory in this city in 1889. It belongs to the estate of the late A. L. Baron, the present company including Mrs. Agnes Baron, Mrs. Howard Nicolai, Mrs. John H. Wells and Charles S. Baron. The plant, which is large and well equipped, is advantageously located on the lines of three prominent railways, the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore and Ohio and the Big Four.

Charles S. Baron was born in Bellaire, Belmont county, Ohio, where he acquired the rudiments of his education. After coming with the family to Tiffin he completed his early studies in the public schools, and at the age of eighteen years began learning the trade of making lanterns and lamps in his father's factory, for about two years being employed in various capacities and becoming familiar with the work of each department. On the death of his father, in 1904, Mr. Baron was made general manager of the plant, and has continued the business successfully. The factory runs the year around, employing about seventy-five people in the making of lanterns, lamps and specialties, its productions finding a ready market in all of the larger and more important cities of the state and of the country.

Mr. Baron is highly esteemed in business and social circles, and is a valued member of the Episcopal church. Fraternally he belongs to Tiffin Lodge, No. 94, B. P. O. E.; to Tiffin Lodge No. 77, F. & A. M.; to Seneca Chapter, R. A. M., to the Council, No. 47, R. & S. M.; and to DeMolay Commandery, No. 9, K. T.

G. F. HARPSTER.—Possessing the energy, ability and judgment that ever command success in the industrial world, G. F. Harpster, of Tiffin, has attained a noteworthy position in business circles, being financially interested in the petroleum and oil industry and an extensive dealer in real estate. He was born February 12, 1855, in Thompson township, Seneca county, coming on the paternal side of German and English ancestry. He comes of distinguished patriotic stock, his paternal great-great-grandfather having served as a minute man at the battle of Lexington, the first engagement of the Revolution, from that time until the surrender of Cornwallis, at Yorktown, being a soldier in the Revolutionary army. During the entire seven years this brave patriot had no furlough, at the close of the great struggle for independence resuming his farm labors just where he left off at the Lexington Alarm.

Frederick Harpster, Mr. Harpster's grandfather, married Cynthia Barbin, who was born in London, England, and at the age of seventeen years emigrated to America, where she soon after became a bride. Their son, Lewis Harpster, married Elizabeth

Beck, whose parents, Daniel and Julia Beck, were natives of Pennsylvania and of Irish descent. Of their union two sons were born and reared, namely: Ervin, of Fostoria, Ohio, and G. F., the special subject of this brief review.

In May, 1888, Mr. Harpster married Jennie M. Mowery, of Kansas, Liberty township, Seneca county, and soon after that important event in his life's history became a resident of the thriving village of Kansas. An enthusiastic worker, he soon became influential in public affairs, and during the administration of President Cleveland was appointed postmaster of Kansas, winning the distinction of being one of the two Democrats that ever had the honor of holding that position in that village or community, which has always been a Republican stronghold. When William McKinley succeeded to the president's chair, Mr. Harpster, as a matter of course, resigned his position and was succeeded by a Republican.

Since 1900 Mr. Harpster has been numbered among the active and valued citizens of Tiffin, where he is carrying on a substantial and lucrative business as a dealer in petroleum, oil and real estate. He is active in politics, his influence being felt in both primaries and in conventions. Fraternally he belongs to Fremont Lodge, No. 336, F. & A. M.; and to Fremont Chapter, No. 64, R. A. M.

GEORGE BIMER.—Among the venerable and honored citizens of Greenspring, Seneca county, Ohio, George Bimer holds a secure place in popular confidence and esteem. He was born at Kalamazoo, Michigan, on the 10th of September, 1858. He is a son of George Bimer, who was a native of Germany, the place of his birth being Byron and the date 1823. George Bimer, Sr., received his preliminary education in the district schools in Germany and when fourteen years of age he began to assist his father in the work and management of the home farm. When twenty-one years of age he entered the army, serving for a period of three years, at the expiration of which his father died. He then left the army and, deciding to seek his fortune in America, he bade farewell to native land and the scenes of his youth and embarked for the United States. With a small sum of money which had been his share at the time of his father's death, he landed in New York City, whence he journeyed to Buffalo, New York, where he resided for three years and where he learned the cooper's trade. There he joined his brother, Clemence Bimer, who owned a farm of eighty acres. George Bimer immediately purchased an adjoining eighty acres, but being unacquainted with real estate transactions he did not know until after he had completed the deal that a third party held a heavy mortgage on his land. Being unable to pay the mortgage, he was forced to surrender the farm to the mortgagee. He then departed for northern Illinois, where he secured employment on a railroad in process of construction. A short time later he went to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where he found work in the iron ore mines. It was during his sojourn in this place that he met Miss Mary Rash, to whom he was united in marriage in 1854. In 1860 he removed with his family to Greenspring, Ohio, where he entered the employ of Drury Gale in the brick yard

operated by him. Thereafter he was engaged to drive a team of oxen for Robert Smith, who ran a saw mill, and he continued to be identified with this line of enterprise for a period of twelve years. He next turned his attention to farming on the old homestead just north of the sanitarium and he continued to reside here until 1890, when he purchased a home in Greenspring, where he passed the residue of his life and where he died in 1896, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away in 1892. Mrs. Bimer was likewise born in Germany, and she immigrated to America as a young girl. Mr. and Mrs. Bimer became the parents of seven children, concerning whom the following brief data are here incorporated: Lizzie, married Charles Murray and resides at Fort Wayne, Ind.; George, Jr., is the subject of this review; Clemence D. married Fannie Earhart, who is now deceased, and he resides at Greensprings; Charlie lives at Fort Wayne, Ind.; John, wedded Mattie Ridley and they maintain their home at Fremont, Ohio; Mary died in infancy; and William resides at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

George Bimer, to whom this sketch is dedicated, received but meager educational advantages in his youth, working in the summers and attending school during the winter terms, but being naturally bright he gathered a vast fund of information and kept well informed on the topics of the day. After his marriage, in 1880, he found employment in a packing house and later he rented a farm in Adams township, Seneca county, and engaged in agricultural pursuits for thirteen years. In 1901 he entered the employ of the Home Telephone Company at Greenspring, in the capacity of lineman, and he has continued in this line of enterprise to the present time, 1910. In politics Mr. Bimer is a staunch adherent of the cause of the Democratic party and though not an active politician he has ever manifested a keen and intelligent interest in all movements projected for the good of the community. Fraternally he is affiliated with various social organizations of representative order and he attends and gives his support to the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is a devout member.

On the 25th of February, 1880, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bimer to Miss Eliza A. Peck, who was born and reared in Tiffin, Ohio, the date of her birth being October 8, 1858. She is a daughter of David G. and Ann Catherine (Van Natta) Peck, the former of whom was born in the state of Pennsylvania, whence he came to Ohio about the year 1855, and the latter of whom claimed the state of Ohio as the place of her nativity. Mr. Peck was a shoemaker by trade and he sacrificed his life in defense of the union in the Civil war. Mrs. Peck was summoned to the life eternal in the year 1892, at the age of fifty-nine years. Mrs. Bimer has one brother, who resides near Greenspring. Mr. and Mrs. Bimer became the parents of five children, Zula, married Arthur Loose and they live in Fostoria, Ohio; Blanche, died at the age of fifteen months; Irene, is the wife of Herman Rathbon and they reside in the vicinity of Greenspring; and Frances and Mildred remain at the parental home.



JOHN M. NAYLOR—A publication of this nature exercises its most important function when it takes cognizance, through proper memorial tribute, of the life and labors of so honored a citizen as the late John M. Naylor, of Tiffin, who died in his home in that city on the 3rd of September, 1910. He was most prominently identified with the civic and business activities of the community for fully half a century and at the time of his demise was one of the most venerable and honorable citizens of Seneca county. He ever stood exponent of the most leal and loyal citizenship, his life course was ordered on the highest plane of integrity and honor and his gracious, noble personality gained and retained to him the unequivocal confidence and esteem of his fellow men. He was president of the Tiffin National Bank at the time of his death and his other material interests in the city and county were of wide and varied order.

John M. Naylor was a native of the old Buckeye state and a scion of one of its sterling pioneer families. In his career he made of success not an accident but a logical result and he attained to a position of prominence as one of the representative citizens and influential business men of Seneca county. He was known as a man of impregnable integrity, much intellectual strength and intrinsic kindliness of spirit. He lived a sane, normal life, one duly prolific in worthy accomplishment and one that found in each successive stage a full measure of subjective compensation. No shadow rests upon any portion of his record and in contemplating his career both lesson and incentive are to be gained.

John M. Naylor was born at Wooster, Wayne county, Ohio, on the 9th of December, 1822, and was a son of James and Eleanor (Musgrave) Naylor, both of whom claimed the old Keystone state of the Union as the place of their nativity; the father was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and the mother in Dauphin county. James Naylor was reared to maturity in his native state, where his educational advantages were limited to the common schools of the middle pioneer epoch and where he learned the trade of carpentry. He finally removed to Ohio and for a number of years was one of the successful carpenters and builders at Wooster, this state, where both he and his wife continued to reside until their death. Both were members of the Presbyterian church and were folk of strong and sterling character.

The native town of John M. Naylor afforded him his early educational advantages and that he made good use of the same is shown by the fact that when he was about seventeen years of age he began teaching in the public schools. Through his application to the pedagogic profession he earned the money which enabled him to continue his studies at Granville College, where he remained a student for some time. His ambition was to secure adequate academic training and then prepare himself for the legal profession, but at the age of twenty years he was induced to assume a clerkship in the hardware store conducted by Jacobs and Kanke, in Wooster. He continued to be thus employed for four years and though his salary was meager his experience gained in this connection proved to be the foundation for the large fortune he ac-





J. M. Naylor





*Corneelia J. Kaylor*



cumulated later in life. At the expiration of the period noted he formed a partnership with Harvey Howard and in 1847 they established a hardware store in Tiffin, Seneca county, where the enterprise was conducted under the firm name of Howard & Naylor for four years, at the expiration of which Mr. Naylor purchased his partner's interest. He continued the business in an individual way for some time and then admitted to partnership his brother, William Naylor, whereupon the firm name of J. M. Naylor & Bro. was adopted. After the death of his brother, in March, 1866, he continued the business alone until 1892, when his brother, Edward T., and Burton W. Crobaugh were admitted to partnership, under the firm name of J. M. Naylor & Company, which continued until the year 1899, when he disposed of his interest in the enterprise. Under his able management the hardware establishment was developed into one of the best of its kind in Tiffin, and in scope and importance it was excelled by few in the northern part of the state. Mr. Naylor's honorable and enterprising methods brought him a continual and increasing patronage and after his business had expanded to the extent of giving him an excellent income he made gradual and judicious investments, in which his holdings eventually became very extensive. He contributed in large measure to the material development of the city of Tiffin and also of the county and, in a quiet way, wielded much influence in connection with civic and public affairs. He was one of the founders of the National Exchange Bank, in which he became a director and large stockholder, and when the same was reorganized as the Tiffin National Bank he continued to retain large interests in the latter, of which he finally became president and to the administration of whose affairs he gave close attention. As chief executive of this bank he was a potent factor in making it one of the most substantial and popular financial institutions of this section of the state and he continued president of the same until his death. He was also president of the Tiffin Electric Illuminating Company, which was merged with the Tiffin Electric Company in 1910. He also served for several years as president of the Tiffin Electric Railway & Power Company and for a number of years was a stockholder and director in the old Tiffin Woolen Mill Company, with which he was thus identified during the period of its greatest prosperity.

In politics, though never an aspirant for public office, Mr. Naylor accorded a staunch allegiance to the Republican party, with which he identified himself at the time of its organization, and during the critical period of the Civil war he was an earnest supporter of the cause of the Union. He did much to further the progress and upbuilding of his home city and was specially zealous in promoting the development of Greenlawn Cemetery, having been the founder of the Greenlawn Cemetery Association and having contributed in large a measure to the development of the beautiful "God's acre" provided by this association. Mr. Naylor was one of the most zealous and valued members of St. Paul's church, Methodist Episcopal, in Tiffin and contributed with all of liberality to the various departments of its work, as well as to the furthering of the interests of the generic church organization. He served as



trustee of St. Paul's church for five years before he formally identified himself with the same as a member, in 1865. He was a member of the official board of the church for a great many years and held this position at the time of his death, besides which he was for a long number of years superintendent of the Sunday School. Concerning his consecrated zeal in the cause of religion the following statements were made in the Tiffin paper at the time of his death: "His interest in his beloved church was world-wide. He was deeply concerned in mission work, especially in Mexico, where he spent the greater part of one year with Bishop Butler, one of his dearest friends, where they made a careful study of mission work. The educational department of his church was also the object of his munificence to a large extent. He was deeply interested in the Methodist Theological Institute, in Denver, and in the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, of which latter institution he was a member of the board of trustees at the time he was summoned to the life eternal. Needless to say he contributed generously of his means to all of these institutions. Locally he was always ready with his funds to assist not only his own church but also those of other denominations. Due largely to his generosity is the splendid church edifice of St. Paul's, on Madison street, where he was so long a regular attendant."

From the same appreciative obituary notice are taken the following extracts, which are altogether worthy of perpetuation in this volume, as indicating the estimate placed upon him in his home community: "Socially Mr. Naylor was affable and easily approached. He was most considerate for others and was never too busy to stop and exchange a pleasant word of greeting with his friends. Up to the time of his last illness he was unusually robust and active for a man of his years and his figure was a familiar one on the street. He was unfortunately afflicted with a defect of vision which made it almost impossible for him to recognize even his closest friends except by the voice. This often created a mistaken impression that he was cold and distant, a circumstance which Mr. Naylor so deeply deplored that he often spoke of it. Few men in Tiffin have been privileged to enjoy a longer or a more honorable and prominent and a more successful career, covering a wider scope of business, religious and public affairs than did Mr. Naylor." Mr. Naylor was an appreciative member of the time-honored Masonic fraternity, in which he had attained to the thirty-second degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, in which his affiliation was with the consistory in the city of Cincinnati. His maximum York Rite affiliation was with DeMolay Commandery, Knights Templars, in Tiffin, and his funeral services were held under Masonic auspices.

Though Mr. Naylor attained to the patriarchal age of eighty-eight years he retained his intellectual and physical powers to a wonderful degree and the years rested lightly upon him until his final illness. Instead of retiring altogether from business life he continued to give his attention to banking and to the control of his investments and he was a valued factor in financial circles in Tiffin until he was called to his reward. Of a studious nature, he de-

voted much attention to the study of standard works and thus he gained valuable and comprehensive information, such as is seldom possessed except by a college graduate. Tiffin found in him a warm and helpful friend, ever ready to promote her welfare along the lines of substantial progress and improvement. For more than half a century he was identified with her business and social interests and during this long period he proved to be a man of excellent executive ability and one of marked perceptive and reasoning faculties. His judgment and prompt decisions were seldom at fault and throughout his entire career his course was characterized by a conscientious desire to be just and fair in his treatment of all. He was a man of even temperament, calm and self-poised and of refined character, one in whom nature and culture vied in making an honorable and interesting gentleman. In his venerable years his erect form and clear-cut features gave little suggestion that he had almost completed nine decades since starting upon life's journey. Nature deals kindly with the man who abuses not her laws, and though Mr. Naylor's business cares were extensive, age rested lightly upon him.

It is not the desire of the biographer to lift the gracious veil which guarded the sacred precincts of a home whose associations were of the most ideal character and in conclusion of this memoir are entered only brief data concerning the domestic relations of Mr. Naylor. On the 11th of December, 1849, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Cornelia T. Pittinger, who was born and reared in Tiffin, Seneca county, and who is a daughter of the late Benjamin Pittinger, a representative legist and jurist of this state. The great loss and bereavement of Mr. Naylor's life came when his cherished and devoted companion was summoned to the life eternal her death having occurred on the 11th of May, 1896. She was a woman of most gracious personality and her memory is revered by all who came within the sphere of her gentle influence. Mr. and Mrs. Naylor became the parents of two children, both of whom are now deceased. Cora, who was born in 1851, entered into eternal rest at the age of twenty-two years. Frank, who was born in 1854, died in 1883, while visiting in Florida, and was twenty-nine years of age at the time of his demise. The only surviving near relations of Mr. Naylor are two brothers, Edward T. Naylor, of Tiffin, and Samuel Y. Naylor, of West Allis, Wisconsin. Earl B. Naylor, a nephew of the subject of this memoir, resided in the homestead in Tiffin for some time prior to the death of his uncle.

WILLIAM MATZ pursues the double vocation of veterinary surgeon and farmer, cultivating a tract of seventy-five acres and at the same time engaging in that useful profession of which he is one of the most enlightened exponents. He is a man of versatile abilities and has also to his credit several terms as a teacher. He has an interesting ancestry, his immediate forbears having been Pennsylvanians, a stock from which Seneca county is settled to a considerable degree, and on the maternal side he is justly proud to trace his lineage to certain Royers who came over in the Mayflower.

The Matz family seems to be Swiss in origin and the great-

grandfather of the subject, whose name was Lawrence Matz, was the first of the line in America. He and his brother were both small boys at the time their parents concluded to cast their fortunes with the new country across the Atlantic. To their great sorrow and dismay both of their parents died en voyage and were buried in the sea. The desolate little lad who was to become Mr. Matz's ancestor was bound over to a man in Berks county, Pennsylvania. He grew to be a useful and well-to-do-citizen, married and reared a family, the names of his children being: John, George, Daniel, Samuel, Jacob, David and Christian, and there were two daughters who died young. His wife's maiden name was Richards.

The son William was the grandfather of him whose name initiates this review. He was born April 2, 1789, in Berks county, Pennsylvania, and died August 16, 1844. His wife, also a native of Berks county, was born July 5, 1788, and died September 2, 1844, the period of her life being almost coincident with that of her husband. Both of these good citizens are buried at Sinking Springs, Pennsylvania. The grandmother's name was Mary Catherine Heberling, and she had four sisters and two brothers.

Mr. Matz's parents were John and Lydia (Royer) Matz, the father a native of Berks county, Pennsylvania, and the mother of Ohio. The former was born January 8, 1828, and the latter, April 7, 1836. When John Matz first came to Ohio he made several changes of residence before he found the location he considered ideal, going first to Fairfield county, thence to Van Wert and thence to Toledo, and from the latter city coming on to the township in which he now resides. He was a contractor and continued at this trade for five or six years before buying a farm of three hundred and twenty acres, in whose cultivation he engaged until his demise, which occurred November 7, 1886. He was a Democrat and served at one time upon the school board. His marriage was solemnized June 3, 1855.

As previously stated, Mr. Matz's mother's family, the Royers, were of Pilgrim stock, early Royers having crossed the sea with that historic little company in 1620. The parents of the subject's mother were John and Mary (Romig) Royer, who came to Ohio from Pennsylvania and located in Wayne county. Stephen, the father of John, went to Summit county.

William Matz was born May 13, 1862, in Reed township, and is one of a family of eleven children. Neri, born March 16, 1856, died November 7, 1892. He married Elizabeth Wolessagle. September 12, 1876, and became the father of eight children, namely: Charles, born in 1877; Earl L., born June 4, 1878; George E., born October 20, 1879; Lillie D., born August 16, 1882; Arthur L., born June 2, 1884; Ralph F., born March 11, 1888; John C., born March 18, 1890; Neda C., born May 30, 1892. The second of the children of John and Lydia Matz was John W., born February 26, 1858. He took as his wife Ida Cole and they have two children, named Dorothea M., born November, 1903, and William Edwin, born in 1905. Franklin, born March 3, 1860, married Evaline Hartshorn and their only offspring is a daughter, Georgia, born in June, 1900. The subject was the fourth in order of birth. The fifth,



Mary C., born September 22, 1864, became the wife of Alfred Bookmyer in 1889, and is the mother of six children, whose names are Lillie, Edith, Charles, Frank, Warren and Mary. Rosie, the sixth child, was born October 13, 1866, became the wife of Dr. Irvin I. Good, and has two children, named Marian and James. The seventh child, Isaac, born February 11, 1869, married Ellen Spriggs, and their only child, Harold, was born June 25, 1897. The eighth, Lizzie, born May 6, 1871, is the wife of James Spade, and the date of the birth of their son, Leonard, was 1896. Edwin, ninth in order of birth of the children of the Matz family, was born July 27, 1873, married Susan B. Good, November 24, 1889, and has one boy, Russell, the date of whose nativity was June 25, 1900. Edwin and his family reside upon the old homestead. Lillie, the tenth child, was born May 10, 1876, and became the wife of Professor John E. Sherk, of Bloomville. Their issue is as follows: Florence, born in December, 1901; Donald, born December 25, 1906; Edwin M., born January 25, 1908; and Charles P., born in January, 1910. Samuel, the eleventh of the brothers and sisters of the subject, was born July 1, 1878, and died at the age of two years.

William Matz was fortunate enough to receive a good education, his common school training being supplemented by attendance at Northwestern College at Ada, Ohio, after which he taught several terms of school in Sandusky and Huron counties, achieving an unequivocal success in this line of endeavor. He abandoned this calling, nevertheless, and took up the study of veterinary surgery in the college in Chicago which specializes in this department, being graduated from the institution with the class of 1894. He has a large practice in this and neighboring townships and also cultivates with great success his seventy-five acre farm, his agricultural methods being thoroughly up-to-date. His estate is adorned with a modern home, which is also the centre of generous hospitality. In addition to the interests already mentioned Mr. Matz is a director in the Farmers' Elevator and Grain Association at Bellevue. He is likewise one of the managers of the Farmers' Union Threshing Company.

Mr. Matz was married, March 30, 1892, to Emma A. Zieber, daughter of Henry and Mary (Miller) Zieber, her birthdate being June 17, 1870. Her mother was born October 23, 1842, and was a daughter of Phillip and Elizabeth (Cochran) Miller. These pioneers were born March 20, 1816, and July 10, 1816, respectively. The first of the Cochran family in America was Joseph, a native of Ireland, who was influenced by reports of American opportunity to make a radical change of residence. Mrs. Matz's mother was the eldest in a family of three children, she having two brothers. Henry Zieber had nine brothers and sisters, of whom the following is an enumeration: Elizabeth, Mary H., Johanna, Catherine, Joseph, John, Frederick, Rachel and Alice.

Henry Zieber and his wife were married in 1861, and in 1862 he enlisted in the Thirty-fourth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, his company being in the command of Captain Fernie. The regiment was engaged in scouting duty and in 1863 Mr. Zieber was

captured and sent to Richmond as a prisoner. He remained in that Virginia city from March until September, when he was transferred to Andersonville prison, where he was held until November. From there he was sent to Florence and was finally released, his prison experience extending over a period of sixteen months and ten days. He was exchanged and in December, 1864, was discharged and sent home. He had two daughters besides the wife of the subject of this sketch. Etta, born February 23, 1866, the eldest, became the wife of David Moyer, and Eskey, born July 18, 1868, is the wife of Calvin Moyer.

The union of Mr. Matz and his wife has been blessed by the birth of five children. Vera M., born January 21, 1893, has received her education in the township schools and was graduated in 1908; Bernice, born May 17, 1895; Gertrude, born October 9, 1897; J. Willard, born August 20, 1900; and Charles H., born July 29, 1904.

In the matter of religious faith the Matz family belong to the Reformed church and are active in its campaign for righteousness. The head of the house holds membership in the Masonic order, No. 173, at Bellevue. Politically he is inclined towards the Democratic party.

GEORGE A. KUHN is one of the energetic, progressive business men of Thompson township, his connection with the commercial world having dated from the year 1893, previous to which time he was one of Seneca county's agriculturists. He is engaged in buying grain for the W. H. Gardner Grain & Mill Company at Bellevue, his own headquarters being located at Flat Rock. Mr. Kuhn is a native son of the township, having been born here September 12, 1859, the son of Adolph and Susan (Harpster) Kuhn. The subject is German in parentage, his father having been born in the Fatherland in the year 1826, coming to the land of the stars and stripes in the year 1832 or 1833, when he was scarcely more than half a dozen years of age. The elder Kuhns were named Jacob and Catherine, and the former was a well educated man, he having taught school previous to his removal to a new scene of endeavor. They found their way to the Buckeye state and located in this township.

Adolph Kuhn grew up with the new country, learning its lessons of independence and progressiveness and he remained under the home roof until he was about sixteen years of age. Thrown upon his own resources, he worked for neighboring farmers for several years or until his marriage, when he secured a farm and branched out as an independent agriculturist. He married Susan Harpster, who was born in 1832 and died January 5, 1906. She was a native of the Keystone state, having come here with her parents, George and Catherine (Harpster) Harpster, when she was a very young girl. They secured land from the government, the deed bearing the signature of President Andrew Jackson. This they improved and converted into a comfortable home for their family, which contained seven children, whose names were Thomas, Solomon, Fred, Daniel, Elizabeth, Susan and Katie the latter being

the only one living at the present day. George Harpster held a firm place in the esteem of his fellow men. He was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party and a member of the Evangelical church, in whose campaign for righteousness he played a prominent part. The First Evangelical church in Ohio was erected upon the Old Harpster farm in the year 1841, and he gave a great deal of time and money to its support. The Harpster home was a haven for traveling ministers. Two of George Harpster's brothers, Solomon and Daniel, were in the Civil war.

George A. Kuhn resided with his parents until the death of the head of the house on March 22, 1870. It was near that time that he married Arcelia Spittler, born June 19, 1854, to Daniel and Mary A. (Patterson) Spittler, natives of Fairfield county, Ohio. The paternal grandfather was the son of Christian Spittler of the Keystone state. Simeon Spittler, who was an uncle of the subject's wife, was a soldier of the Civil war. Mrs. Kuhn was one of four children, the other members of the family being Ransler, Josiah and one who died at birth. The father, who was born in 1816, died June 6, 1866, and the mother, born July 5, 1815, died May 14, 1902. Mrs. Kuhn is of remote Irish descent, her great-grandfather, David Patterson, having been a "Son of Erin." He came to America and married a Maryland girl.

Two children have been born to bless the union of the subject and his wife. Samuel A., born May 8, 1883, resides in Flat Rock, where he holds the position of an engineer. He married Elva A. Noel March 31, 1907, she having been born July 25, 1884, to George and Catherine Good. Their daughter, Helen M., born October 20, 1908, makes Mr. Kuhn a grandfather. The second son, William D., born October 26, 1886, and his wife, Olive B. (James) Kuhn, born July 14, 1885, to Charles and Amanda (Tussing) James, reside with the subject and his wife. Their marriage was celebrated on Independence Day, 1909, and they have an infant son, Paul G., born April 8, 1910. Both sons received their education in the schools of Flat Rock.

Not only is Mr. Kuhn a good business man, but he is active and interested in public affairs. He pays fealty to the "Grand Old Party" and has been entrusted with positions on the school and township boards. He and his family, like those of the name who have gone before them, are faithful members of the Evangelical church, giving, as did their forbears, their sympathy and support to its good causes. Mr. Kuhn and his brother David own one hundred of the fertile acres of Seneca county, this tract being known as the Harpster homestead and having belonged originally to George Harpster, mentioned earlier in this article. Samuel A. and William D., the sons of him whose name initiates this review, are associated in the grain buying business with their father, and all three are recognized as representative and estimable citizens.

AMOS C. ROGERS.—A member of a fine old English family whose original progenitor in America settled near Baltimore, Maryland, in 1819, and a fair and representative example of the evolution of our best American citizenship, Amos C. Rogers is success-



fully engaged in agricultural pursuits in Venice township, Seneca county, where he owns and operates a farm of one hundred and forty acres. He was born on his father's old farmstead in Venice township, on the 11th of September, 1861, and is a son of John and Elmira (Snyder) Rogers, the former of whom claimed England as the place of his nativity and the latter of whom was born in the state of Ohio, in Venice township. John Rogers, whose birth occurred in March, 1818, was the son of Stephen and Jane (Rogers) Rogers, both natives of England, whence they emigrated to the United States when John was a child of but one year. Stephen and Jane Rogers established their home eighteen miles south of the city of Baltimore, Maryland, and in 1837 they removed to Seneca county, Ohio, where the father followed the work of his trade, that of blacksmith. They became the parents of nine children, all born in England, and of this number John, father of him whose name initiates this review, was the youngest. John Rogers was reared to the age of nineteen years in Maryland, where his educational training was that afforded in the schools of the locality and period. He became very much attached to hunting and the excitement connected with big game often led to his remaining out in the forest all night rather than give up the chase. For many years he killed from twenty to thirty deer each winter. He entered government land in Ohio and became a very prosperous farmer, owning at one time as much as two hundred and twenty acres of finely improved land. He was twice married, wedding first Miss Elmira Snyder, who was likewise born in Venice township, a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Prouse) Snyder, of Dutch extraction. John and Elmira Rogers became the parents of the following named children: William, Mary M., who is now the wife of E. D. Ellis; Anna, wife of S. R. Hull; Levina, who became the wife of Hiram McLaughlin and both are now deceased; Mary J., who married Lafayette Hooler; David, who is deceased; Amos C., the immediate subject of this review; and Isabella, now Mrs. Gilbert Enders. Mrs. Rogers was a member of the United Brethren church, and she was summoned to the life eternal in March, 1891. In 1892 was solemnized the marriage of John Rogers to Mrs. Agnes Freeborn, who is still living. John Rogers died in 1897, deeply mourned by his family and scores of devoted friends.

Amos C. Rogers was reared to adult age on his father's farm and he availed himself of the advantages of the common schools of Seneca county. With the exception of eight years, in which he rented various farms in this county, he has owned and operated his present splendid estate of one hundred and forty acres, which he purchased in 1899. In politics he accords a staunch support to the cause of the Republican party and he is loyal and public spirited as a citizen, doing all in his power to further the general welfare of the community. He is identified with various fraternal and social organizations of representative order and both he and his wife are members of the Reformed church, in the various departments of whose work they have been active factors.

On the 29th of January, 1888, Mr. Rogers was united in marriage to Miss Laura Shock who was born in Bloom township and

who is a daughter of Jacob C. and Catherine (Young) Shock, representative citizens of Bloom township. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers became the parents of seven children, five of whom are living: Lucilla, deceased; Earl; Ralph, deceased; Alta and Alma, twins; Lloyd; and May. Those living are at home with their parents.

HIRAM HIPPLER.—There is no one nation that has contributed to the complex composition of our American social fabric an element of more sterling worth or of greater value in fostering and supporting our national institutions than has Germany. Germany has given us men of sturdy integrity, indomitable perseverance, high intelligence and much business sagacity—the result being the incorporation of a firm and strength-giving fiber, ramifying through warp and woof. Of this good stock is Hiram Hippler, who was born in Koenigheim, in the grand duchy of Baden, on June 15, 1849. Both his father, Frances Hippler, and his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Ann Blesch, were natives of the Fatherland. The former attended the excellent German schools. He escaped service in the army by drawing a high number, the recruits being secured for the ranks by drawing numbers. During the war of 1866, however, the subject of this review served in the German army for three weeks, taking his place in the ranks while his parent was on sick leave. In this time the young man participated in one battle, that of Toubesbeschofsheim, and at its termination he retreated with the rest of the regiment. All the supplies were discovered to be captured and the regiment subsisted on a milk diet for some time, catching all the cows which strayed along the line of march and giving such military milkings as they chewed the cud of contemplation in the pastures, undisturbed by “wars and rumors of wars.” One very interesting incident of the battle Mr. Hippler will not soon forget. Upon a dead body remaining upon the field after the conflict was found a letter. The writers were informed of the death of him who had received it and he was mourned as dead. The body was duly claimed and buried. But it subsequently transpired that the letter found upon the person of the dead man had not been his at all, but had been given to him by the real recipient shortly before the battle. Only the other day Mr. Hippler secured a German almanac and in it he found a description of the battle and of the letter incident, as above narrated. He naturally looked upon this as an interesting coincidence.

There were a number of children born to the union of Mr. Hippler's father and mother. Timothy emigrated to the United States when sixteen years of age, and was drafted into the service at the time of the Civil war. Rosina married Oswald Deppish and resides in Bavaria, Germany. Jacob emigrated to the United States with his family in 1880 and is now deceased. Charles, who emigrated to the United States when seventeen years of age, located in Seneca county, where he reared a family. He is now deceased, having been accidentally killed in a mill. The father of these died in Germany in 1873 and in 1880 the mother emigrated to American shores, living for eight years beneath the stars and

stripes, her demise occurring in 1888. The father and mother were members of the Catholic faith.

Mr. Hippler received his education in the public schools of Germany and when he was seventeen years of age he crossed the Atlantic to secure his share of the highly vaunted American opportunity. He borrowed his passage money from his parents, but very soon after landing he secured work and in a few months was able to repay the borrowed money. He came to Seneca county in February, 1867. He secured work with farmers and for a time received only eight dollars per month during crop season and during the winter only his board.

On December 3, 1871, at the age of twenty-three years, Mr. Hippler took as his wife Malinda Fender, a native of Seneca county. Their union was blessed by the birth of two sons, Victor E., residing in Lodi, where he operates an implement store, and Ohlen E., also a citizen of Lodi, where he is the proprietor of a grocery and saloon.

The subject's career in the industrial world is herewith sketched. As soon as he was financially able he purchased an eighty-acre farm. For four years he engaged in the hotel business, conducting the Lodi Hotel for a term of four years. Abandoning that he purchased his present farm of sixty acres, which he has since operated with splendid result. The farm is well improved and the residence is a fine brick house. Mr. Hippler has given efficient public service, having been elected a justice of the peace for sixteen years. He is a stanch adherent of the Democratic principles.

ANDREW J. MITTOWER.—Among the intelligent, progressive and enterprising men who have successfully directed their attention and labors to the noble work of husbandry in Seneca county and whose prosperity has come as the result of personal effort is Andrew J. Mittower. Although for nearly fifty years one of the prominent agriculturists of the county, Mr. Mittower has now retired and resides in Lodi, the management of his highly improved farm of one hundred and twenty acres being in the hands of his son.

Mr. Mittower is a native son of Seneca county, his birth having occurred in Scipio township September 3, 1830, his years thus being more by ten than the psalmist's allotment. His father, John Mittower, was born in Maryland and emigrated to Ohio with other members of the family in 1826. Locating in Seneca county, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres from the government and for the tract, now so valuable, paid two hundred dollars. The nearest land office being in the state of Delaware, he was compelled to go there to complete the papers. Not being of the most robust type physically, he suffered from the privations and hardships of pioneer life. He chose as his wife Elizabeth Spangle, a native of the Keystone state, and the children born to the union of these worthy people were as follows: Rachel, who married Leander Ransburg, of Indiana, and is now deceased; Catherine, now deceased; Susan, who became the wife of Jephtha Dunn, and is now



deceased; Sarah, wife of D. J. Neikirk, and a resident of Attica; and he whose name initiates the article. Mr. Mittower's father was a man of consequence in his locality and captain of the volunteer service. The custom in those days was to organize companies, to drill them and to ever be in readiness for the call to arms. John Mittower was summoned to his eternal rest in 1874 and the mother survived for fourteen years. They were consistent members of the Lutheran church.

Andrew J. Mittower spent his youthful years upon his father's farm, attending the district schools and finishing his education in the Academy of Republic, where he had for his instructor in mathematics the celebrated Aaron Scheyler, author of several valuable treatises on mathematical subjects. After finishing his education he returned to the farm where he continued to reside and to be successfully engaged in his vocation, that of agriculture.

In 1860 Mr. Mittower took unto himself a wife, the lady of his choice being Miss Malinda Clay, a native of Scipio township and of Pennsylvania parentage. The children born to this union were Clara, deceased; Edwin, who resides in Cleveland, Ohio; Alpheus, a Reed township citizen; Della, who married Perry Kistler and is now deceased; Elmer, who resides in Lodi and is postmaster of that place, having held the position for seven years; Blanche, who became the wife of Mark Hoeltzel, and resides in Thompson township.

From the time Mr. Mittower left college until the year 1899 he followed farming continually and was very successful in his agricultural endeavors. In that year, crowned with years and honors, he concluded to retire from active life and to enjoy in leisure the fruits of his previous industry and thrift. He accordingly entrusted the management of his estate to his son, Alpheus Mittower, and resides in Lodi, where he enjoys the respect of that community as well as of this. Mr. Mittower has played a prominent and praiseworthy part in public life, having served as township trustee, land appraiser, justice of the peace and school director. He is a staunch Republican and a member of the Lutheran church.

HARRY A. WEIDAW.—Engaged in the grain business at Republic, Harry A. Weidaw, though a native of the old Keystone state of the Union, has passed practically his entire life thus far in Seneca county. He was born in Carbon county, Pennsylvania, on the 3d of October, 1876, and is a son of Thomas and Priscilla (Sherer) Weidaw, who emigrated from Pennsylvania to Bloom township in the year 1879, at which time Harry A. was a child of but three years. The father engaged in agricultural pursuits in Bloom township and in 1906 he purchased the fine farm on which he now maintains his home. He was united in marriage to Miss Priscilla Sherer in 1868 and they became the parents of six children, all sons, namely: Frank E., Clinton A., Harry A., Charles S., Fred A. and Harvey P., all of whom reside in Bloomville except Harry A., the immediate subject of this sketch.

Harry A. Weidaw is indebted to the public schools of Bloom-

ville for his early educational training and he continued to be identified with the great basic industry of agriculture until July 1, 1907, when he gave up farming and removed to the village of Republic, where he is now interested in the grain and seed business. In this line of enterprise he has built up a good, thriving business and he is recognized as one of the loyal and public spirited citizens of Republic. In politics he accords a staunch allegiance to the cause of the Democratic party and no further voucher is needed concerning the high estimate in which he is held by his fellow citizens than that evidenced in the fact that in 1909 he was elected village marshal of Republic. In this important office he is giving most efficient and satisfactory service and he has ever given his aid in support of all movements projected for the good of the community. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which lodge he has been honored with several important offices, and he is also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Methodist church and his wife holds membership in the Presbyterian church at Bloomville, and they have been most ardent workers in connection with the charities and benevolences of the churches.

In 1900, at Bloomville, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Weidaw to Miss Myrtle M. Smith, who was born in New Jersey on the 27th of December, 1881. She is a daughter of Ruben and Elizabeth Smith, natives of New Jersey. After the father's death the mother came to Ohio, about 1887, locating in Tiffin, and afterward moved to Bloomville. Mr. and Mrs. Weidaw have one daughter, Cleo A., who was born on the 28th of May, 1902.

CYRUS OHL, whose success as an agriculturist in Seneca county has been of the most unequivocal order, resides in Venice township. He owns and operates a valuable farm of seventy-eight acres and the buildings and improvements on the same are of the most modern type. He was born in Crawford county, Ohio, on the 30th of July, 1870, and is a son of George and Christina (Slowan) Ohl, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania in 1845, and the latter of whom claims the empire of Germany as her birthplace. Christina (Slowman) Ohl was six years of age at the time of her emigration to America and she first located in Crawford county, Ohio, where her marriage to George Ohl was solemnized. In 1851 George Ohl came to Crawford county, Ohio, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. They became the parents of six children, whose names are here entered in respective order of birth: William, Cyrus, George, Henry, Addison, and Cora. The daughter is the wife of Henry Briegel, of Crawford county. George Ohl was closely identified with the great basic industry of agriculture during the greater portion of his life. He was a staunch supporter of the cause of the Democratic party in politics and both he and his wife held membership in the Reformed church. His death occurred in 1906 and Mrs. Ohl is still living, residing in Crawford county with her son George.

Cyrus Ohl, the immediate subject of this review, was the second in order of birth of the six children of George Ohl and he was







DR. HENRY K. SPOONER



MRS. HARRIET SPOONER

reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and received his early educational training in the common schools of his native county. In 1901 he purchased his present fine farm and he holds secure vantage ground in the confidence and esteem of his fellow men, which fact was given concrete proof by his election to the office of township supervisor in 1903-4. In his political convictions he gives his allegiance to the Democratic party and he is ever on the alert and most enthusiastically in sympathy with all measures tending to advance the general welfare of the community. He is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character and both he and his wife hold membership in the Reformed church of Bloomville, in which he is a deacon. He is a consistent Christian, a worthy neighbor and a loyal and public spirited citizen.

On the 6th of January, 1901, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Ohl to Miss Laura Stuckey, who was born in Crawford county, Ohio, on the 21st of January, 1874, and who is a daughter of Carl and Louise (Keller) Stuckey, both of whom are now deceased. She is next to the youngest in a family of ten children, whose names are here entered in order of birth: Henry, Mary, Magdeline, Charles, Elizabeth, Harriet, George, William, Laura and Janette. Mr. and Mrs. Ohl have no children.

HARRIET SPOONER.—It is most pleasing to the publishers of this work to accord recognition at this point to Harriet Spooner, a native of the fine old Buckeye state and a scion of an old New England family, of which the original progenitor in America was one Sprague, who came over in the Mayflower. Harriet (Sprague) Spooner was born on the 8th of May, 1839, at Columbus, Ohio, the place of her birth being the state penitentiary, of which her father was warden for a number of years. She is a daughter of V. T. Sprague, a native of Rhode Island, where his birth occurred in 1800. His father was an engraver of considerable fame and was employed by the government at Washington, D. C. V. T. Sprague received excellent educational advantages in his youth and after completing his college course he was elected manager of a Textile Milling company in New England. In 1830, however, he severed his connections in the east and journeyed to Ohio, locating at Columbus. For a number of years he was high sheriff of that city. Prior to his advent in Ohio he had married Miss Mercey Place, of Providence, Rhode Island. She was a daughter of George Place, who was a farmer by occupation and who gave gallant service as a soldier in the war of the Revolution. About 1836 V. T. Sprague was appointed warden of the penitentiary at Columbus and after remaining incumbent of that position for a number of years he was appointed superintendent of the Cleveland Infirmary, which latter position he held for a period of nineteen years. Thereafter he opened a general merchandise store on what is now known as Cole Ridge, in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, and he continued to be identified with that line of enterprise until his death, which occurred in 1884. When Mr. Sprague took charge of the infirmary at Cleveland that institution occupied a small farm house,

which was replaced by a fine seven-story building during his regime. Mrs. Sprague survived her honored husband for three years, she being summoned to the life eternal in 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague became the parents of eight children, namely: William, Cinthia, Jane, Harriet, Mary, Josephine, Addison and Kate, all of whom are now deceased except Harriet, the immediate subject of this review.

Mrs. Spooner was reared in a home of most gracious culture and refinement. Her early education was received in the public schools of Cleveland and she was also a student at Hiram College when J. A. Garfield was a professor in same. This splendid training she has since effectively supplemented by reading and extensive travel. She is a woman of fine mental caliber and broad human sympathy and is deeply beloved by all who have come within the sphere of her gentle influence. In 1860 was solemnized her marriage to Dr. Henry K. Spooner, she being born in a penitentiary and married in a poor house, her future husband being house physician at the infirmary at Cleveland at the time of her marriage. Dr. Spooner was born in Seneca county in 1837, and he was a son of William and Caroline (Burke) Spooner. William Spooner was a native of Seneca county, New York, and Caroline Burke was a native of Kentucky. Dr. Spooner received his medical training at Western Reserve College and at the time of the Civil war he served as surgeon in the Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being brevetted major. Mrs. Spooner was with her husband at Gettysburg, Chancellorsville, Lookout Mountain and at the barracks at Washington, at which latter place she attended the reception given President Lincoln. Dr. Spooner was affiliated with the Masonic order, being a Knight Templar, and he was a member of Robinson Post, Grand Army of the Republic. His political faith coincided with the views of the Republican party and he gave most efficient service as representative in the state legislature. The name of Spooner is one of large influence and wealth in Seneca county and Dr. H. K. Spooner was held in high esteem by his fellow citizens. God-fearing, law-abiding, progressive, he ever did the right as he interpreted it and he was a pillar of strength in the community in which he resided. Mrs. Spooner came with her husband to Republic in 1860, and she recalls the old strap-iron railroad, known as the Mad River Road. She has witnessed the many changes that have taken place in this section of the state prior to and following the Civil war. She and her husband became the parents of three children, concerning whom the following brief data are here recorded: Sophia first married Dr. Storer and after his death she wedded B. S. Mills, of Republic; Kate is the wife of J. F. Barker, superintendent of a manual training school at Cleveland, Ohio; and William R. is one of the leading physicians and surgeons in Republic. Dr. William R. Spooner was graduated in the Toledo Medical College, at Toledo, Ohio. He married Miss Mary J. Whiteman, who was born at Republic, February 6, 1873. To this union have been born two children: Helen L., whose birth occurred on the 1st of August, 1894, and Henry K. Whiteman Spooner, born on the 21st of June, 1905. This family resides with Mrs. Spooner,



at her fine home in Republic. Dr. H. K. Spooner was summoned to the life eternal in 1907 and his remains were laid to rest in Fair View cemetery, the funeral services being conducted under the auspices of the Knights Templars of Tiffin. Mrs. Spooner is a member of the Disciples of Christ church, in the various departments of whose work she has been an active factor.

SAMUEL O. FELSTED.—Few names have more weight or are better known in Greenspring than that of Samuel O. Felsted, who has been engaged in the hardware and tinner's business throughout almost the entire course of his career in the world of affairs, one year, however, having been devoted to managing a hotel at this place. He is a native Ohioan, having been born September 7, 1854, at Toledo, the son of John and Sarah (Older) Felsted. In the ancestry of his children figure a number of doughty pioneers who met and conquered difficulties and who engaged in tasks in the new country which would have dislocated the arm of Hercules. His parents were born in England, but they came here with their parents at an early day and when they were children. Mr. Felsted's maternal grandparents, whose names were Samuel and Sarah Older, settled near Grand Rapids, Wood county, Ohio, and secured one hundred and sixty acres of land from the government. They cleared a space upon it and built a log house, where they reared their family of fourteen children, who often had Indians for playmates. The grandfather took a prominent part in the upbuilding and development of the new country, and was interested in politics, being first a Whig and later, upon the organization of that party, a Republican. He was a member of the United Brethren church and was a well-known figure in the meetings in school houses and in the cabins of the settlers, and none labored more valiantly than he for the promotion of good schools. He was very loyal to his adopted country and at the time of the Civil war sent every son he had to its service, all of them escaping shot and shell and the ravages of disease and receiving honorable discharge at the end of the conflict. The names of these sons were: Caleb, John, Thomas, George, Barnett and Silas. This good man passed on to his reward in the year 1856, being at that time sixty-two years of age.

When he was twenty-five years of age Samuel O. Felsted located at Custer, Ohio, where he learned the tinner's trade and three years later, at the age of twenty-eight years, he was married to Cynthia France, their union being celebrated May 8, 1883. Mrs. Felsted is the daughter of George and Sarah (Coyne) France. The father was born January 17, 1816, the son of John and Betsy E. (Myers) France, natives of Knoxville, Jefferson county, Ohio. While located at Custer the home was burned to the ground, the mother being alone in the doomed house, and in bed at the time with a small babe. As there were no near neighbors she was driven to her own resources to escape the flames. She first sent her son Edward, who was with her, to a neighbors three miles away. It was in the early spring and snow was upon the ground, and the lad was compelled to go that distance barefoot through the snow.

So badly were his toes frozen that his nails dropped off, but the plucky little fellow went on unfalteringly to give the alarm. When assistance arrived from the neighbors they found the distracted mother, wrapped in a few pieces of bedding, lying at a safe distance from the fire, but in her excitement and grief she had forgotten to take the sleeping baby from its cradle. Just then the roof began to fall in and one of the boys ran in, snatched the baby from the flames and saved him to become a useful citizen and live out his days. When the father came home from some business which had called him away he found his home in ashes and his family in the care of a kind neighbor. They remained with this good pioneer friend until the father could erect another house, it being the pride of the pioneer to do a good turn whenever possible.

When he was about twenty-one years of age George France started out for himself, by hiring out to one Fred Mizer for eight dollars a month, a part of which he gave to his parents, they being in a destitute condition. At the age of twenty-five years he was married to Sarah Coyne, born February 25, 1841, and they became the parents of a family of nine children, an enumeration of whom is made below. The eldest is Mary A. Sherman. Edward married Nancy Brown. Elizabeth became the wife of C. Carr. Susan was twice married, first to John Morrison and second to Stephen Hunter. John married Rhoda Van Horn. Sarah J. is the wife of Benjamin Richardson. Peter took as his wife Emma Thielen. Cynthia married the subject of this biography. William C., the youngest, married Jennie Simmons.

Mrs. Felsted's father had a varied and eventful life. At about the time of the birth of his daughter, Cynthia, his house burned down and the family were driven out in their nightclothes, all of the household effects being lost. He came to Wood county from Tuscarawas county, a distance of two hundred miles, by ox team, he leading the way and blazing a path through which his good wife drove the team. Shortly after reaching the new home they had an exciting experience, a wild-cat coming into their house on the very night of the arrival and running around among the children who were sleeping on the floor. At this time coon skin was the medium of exchange. It was very hard to get corn or other provision, it sometimes taking two days to get to the mill and back with a little meal. Four years after taking up his residence in that part of Ohio Mr. France was hired to build seven miles of railroad through the swamp for the C. H. & D. Railroad. This was done with the aid of wheelbarrows, it not being possible to use teams on account of the soft condition of the ground. Mr. France was a man who was identified with the best causes and institutions. He was the friend of schools and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in whose upbuilding he took an active part. It was he who built the first tile factory in Custer and he took the initiative in many other directions. This venerable gentleman after a life of usefulness died at Custer at the age of ninety-four years, secure in the respect and love of his associates,

living over in his last years of leisure and peace the events of nearly a century.

After his marriage Mr. Felsted took up the hardware and tinner's business and he has continued in this line ever since, having established a good trade and made the confidence of the community his own. As previously mentioned he was for one year "mine host" of a hotel at Greenspring. Before becoming established in his present business he worked for Hugh Watkins on a farm. He and his boy companions played around old Fort Meigs and the old "Indian tree" is dear in their memories.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Felsted has been blessed by the birth of three children. Leo F. was born January 21, 1888. He received his education at Weston, Ohio, and later attended at Greenspring, remaining in the high school until his Sophomore year. He then went to Iler, Seneca county, to teach, and in the interims of his duties as pedagogue attended summer school at Heidelberg University. He taught school at Adrian, Ohio, and not being content to "let well enough alone" in the matter of education in the following summer he matriculated at Wooster. After another winter of teaching he attended school at Winona Lake, Indiana, taking a summer course. He finished his educational discipline in 1909. He then went to Republic, Ohio, where he has charge of the grammar department, and it is his intention to make teaching and school interests his life work. He is admirably well fitted for such a career and will, if his promise is fulfilled, come to take his place among the leading educators. The second son, Hugh, born April 3, 1890, has finished his education and resides at home. Lois, born October 3, 1892, is also at home with her parents.

Mr. Samuel O. Felsted is an enthusiastic lodge man, having membership in the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World. He and his family are consistent members of the Presbyterian church of Greenspring.

ABRAM BENNITT RAYMOND.—He whose name initiates this review has the honor of being the grandson of the first settler in Reed township, Seneca county, Ohio, where he was born on the 1st of February, 1857, a son of Jacob and Mary (Bennitt) Raymond. George Raymond, grandfather of Abram Bennitt Raymond, in company with his brother-in-law, Seth Reed, came to Seneca county in 1824, at which time Reed township was a virgin wilderness. These two sterling pioneers were the first settlers in this now favored section of the fine old Buckeye state, having removed here from the state of New York, where both were born and reared to maturity. Seth Reed being the elder of the two the township was named in his honor. They each entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land and located on opposite sides of what subsequently came to be the public highway. In clearing their land each made encroachments on the other's estate through ignorance, but matters were settled amicably when the ground was later surveyed. About 1806 George Raymond was united in marriage to Miss Hannah Reed, who was a sister of Seth Reed. To this union were born



twelve children, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob being triplets, and whose birth occurred on the pioneer farm in 1826. The triplets all grew to maturity and were men of fine physique, each attaining a height of over six feet and of the number Isaac is still (1910) living. A remarkable circumstance worthy of note here is that each of the triplets had three children born to them.

Jacob Raymond was united in marriage to Miss Mary Bennitt, who was born in Steuben county, New York, in 1830, and they became the parents of Abram Bennitt, George and Lucey Adelpia, the latter being now Mrs. Covert, of Reed township. Abram B. is the immediate subject of this sketch and George is now living in Reed township. Jacob followed the vocation of his honored father and eventually became the owner of the one hundred and sixty acres entered by him. He was a man who secured a high place in the confidence and esteem of the community and held many important offices in the township, among them being that of justice of the peace, of which he was incumbent for a period of ten years. He was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church and for a number of years was leader of its choir. His wife held membership in the Baptist church, to whose charities he was likewise a liberal contributor. He was a man of philanthropic and generous impulses and gave his aid in support of all movements projected to further the welfare of the community. He lived to the venerable age of eighty-two years and died in 1908. His wife was summoned to the life eternal in 1898, at the age of sixty-eight years. At the time of the inception of the Civil war he enlisted in the Union army and served as a most valiant soldier until 1865, when he received his honorable discharge.

Abram B. Raymond, to whom this brief sketch is dedicated, was reared to maturity on the old home farm, in whose work he early began to assist. His early educational discipline was that afforded in the common schools of the county and he has since supplemented the same by his association with men and affairs of prominence and during his residence in Reed township he served for two years as assessor. In 1902 he removed with his family to Bloom township, where he is now the owner of a splendid farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which he purchased in 1905. In politics he accords a stalwart allegiance to the cause of the Republican party and he is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character.

In 1881 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Abram Bennitt Raymond to Miss Emma Post, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, in the year 1861, and who is the daughter of Jerome and Caroline Post, representative citizens of Huron county. They have four children, namely: Ralph, Ernest, Carl and Luell. Ralph wedded Miss Mary Chaffee and they are the parents of two children, Mildred and Clifford. Ernest is unmarried and living with his parents. Carl married Ola Rife, a native of Seneca county, August 6, 1910. Luell is now the wife of Horace Pumphrey, of Harrison county, Ohio.

AUGUSTUS TANNER.—A representative agriculturist of Seneca county and a Civil war veteran who nobly sacrificed an arm in the service of his country's cause at the time when the dark cloud of civil strife obscured the national horizon, Augustus Tanner is well deserving of recognition in this compilation devoted to the life histories of loyal and public spirited citizens of this now favored section of the Buckeye state. He was born at Utica, Herkimer county, New York, on the 7th of July, 1842, and is a son of Isaac and Hannah M. (Tanner) Tanner, both of whom were likewise natives of the old Empire state of the Union, whence they removed to Venice township, this county, about the year 1855. Here Isaac Tanner purchased a farm of two hundred and fifty acres, on which there were a few improvements, and here he and his wife continued to reside until their death, the latter being summoned to the life eternal on the 1st of July, 1901, and the former passing away February 6, 1903. They became the parents of five children, three of whom are now deceased, namely, John, who died in infancy, Emily and Maria. Those now living are Eugene and Augustus.

Augustus Tanner was reared to the age of thirteen years in his native county, at which time, in 1855, he accompanied his parents to Seneca county, where he assisted in the work of the home farm and supplemented his earlier education by attendance at the district schools during the winter terms. On the inception of the Civil war, though still a minor, he showed that intrinsic patriotism which has ever distinguished his citizenship by enlisting as a private in Company I, Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, for a period of three years. His command was assigned to the Army of the Potomac and for a year and a half he took an active part in the engagements of those forces. He participated in the following battles: Fort Republic, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, all in Virginia, and numerous other minor engagements. He was then transferred, together with his regiment, to the Army of the Cumberland and saw active service at the battles of Lookout Mountain, Dalton, Peach Tree Creek, Ringold, Kenesaw Mountain and Resaca Mountain, (Tennessee). At Kenesaw Mountain he was severely wounded in his left arm, the injuries demanding amputation. After a period of nine months spent in the hospital Mr. Tanner received his honorable discharge, on the 7th of January, 1865. He was a loyal soldier in the Union army and his subsequent career stands as an example of that old-time integrity so rare in the rush of modern American life and withal so worthy of emulation. He has long been one of the reliable and sterling farmers of Seneca county, where he owns a finely improved farm of two hundred and fifty acres, on which his attractive and spacious brick residence, designed by Architect Chamberlin, is recognized as a center of gracious and refined hospitality.

In politics Mr. Tanner has ever given a staunch allegiance to the principles and policies of the Republican party and both he and his wife are members of the Universalist church, in connection with which they have been earnest and consistent workers. He is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of prominent order and has ever been broad minded and liberal in his

support of all movements advanced to conserve the welfare of his county and state. He is a modest, unassuming man, genial and inspiring, a man whose charity knows only the bounds of his opportunities.

On the 22d of April, 1866, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Tanner to Miss Harriet Ringle, who was born in Venice township, this county, in 1847, and who is a daughter of George and Catherine Ringle, the former of whom was born in Ohio, in 1803, and the latter near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on the 1st of January, 1809, the year that was made notable by the birth of Lincoln, Gladstone and others alike renowned. In 1832 Mr. Ringle entered one hundred and sixty-nine acres of government land, for which he paid one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and on this old homestead were born and reared his eleven children, namely: John, Drucilla, Simon A., Mary J., Henry, Nancy A., Martin, Ashael, Amanda, Harriet and Emma. The entire family grew to maturity and four are now living, Ashael, Amanda, Harriet and Emma. Mr. Ringle was summoned to the life eternal in 1879, at the venerable age of seventy-six years, secure in the confidence and esteem of the community and widely mourned by his family and large circle of friends. Mrs. Ringle passed away on the 13th of June, 1900, when ninety-one years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Tanner have two children, Avis A. and Harley M., the former of whom is now the wife of Joseph N. Baker of Lorain, Ohio, to whom she was married on the 27th of January, 1898. Mrs. Joseph Baker has been twice married. Her first husband was Harvey J. Weider, of Allentown, Pennsylvania, to whom she was married May 4, 1887. They had one son, Glide A., born on the 20th of March, 1888, and at present an operator in the Postal Telegraph services in New York city. Harley M. is engaged in farming in Venice township. He married Ida Zuber, of Sandusky, Ohio.

GEORGE RHOADS is a scion of sterling old pioneer families who so nobly lent their aid in the development of Seneca county, and he is a fair and representative example of the evolution of our best American citizenship. He was born in Bloom township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 25th of December, 1866, and is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Cross) Rhoads, the former of whom was likewise born in Bloom township, where he has spent his entire life thus far and where he owns and operates a fine farm. Mrs. Rhoads was summoned to the life eternal in 1878 and she is survived by seven children, namely: Erwin, Edward, George, Melvin, Estella, Alonzo and Burt. Of this number Edward is the only non-resident of Seneca county. In 1880 Isaac Rhoads was united in marriage to Mrs. Norris, whose maiden name was Wenner. No children have been born to this union. George Rhoads, grandfather of him whose name initiates this sketch and in whose honor he was named, claimed the old Keystone state as the place of his nativity and subsequently moved from Pennsylvania to Seneca county, where he purchased a tract of one hundred acres of fine farm land and identified himself with the great basic industry of agriculture. He married Miss Betsy Webster, who was born and reared in Bloom town-



ship, this county, where her parents were numbered among the early pioneers. This marriage was blessed with eleven children, five of whom are now living, Samuel, Isaac, Obadiah, Louis, and Elizabeth. The daughter is the wife of Abram Troxell.

George Rhoads was reared to maturity on the home farm, in whose work he early began to assist, and his preliminary educational training was that afforded in the common schools of the locality, which he attended during the winter terms. He is now one of the progressive and prosperous farmers of Venice township, where he owns a finely improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he devotes to general or mixed agriculture. Though never an active participant in political affairs, he accords a stanch allegiance to the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor and he is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of a representative character.

In December, 1887, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Rhoads to Miss Minnie E. Sponseller, who was born in Crawford county, Ohio, and who is a daughter of Abraham and Catherine Sponseller representative citizens of Bloom township. Mr. and Mrs. Rhoads are the parents of four children, Verne, Ernest, Iva and Hershel, all of whom remain at the parental home.

DAN B. CRISSEL.—Seneca county is indeed fortunate to be able to number among her citizens men of the type of Dan B. Crissel, a resident of Republic, engaged in the coal and tile business. He is a son of Captain Wilson J. Crissel, of honored memory, a patriot, a brave soldier and a substantial business man who formerly was among the best-known and most influential of the men of the locality. Captain Crissel was a native of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Perry county in the year 1820. In his youth he learned the harnessmaker's trade and after engaging in this for a short time, made a radical change by adopting a mercantile career after his removal to Republic. In 1853 he was united in marriage to Miss Joanna S. Brown, daughter of Dan and Sallie (Chase) Brown, natives of the state of New York, who followed the tide of emigration westward and at an early date cast their fortunes with Ohio, locating on an extensive farming property situated south of Republic. At the outbreak of the Mexican war Mr. Crissel enlisted in an Ohio regiment, serving as sergeant throughout the war and on the occasion of one of the hardly fought battles of that conflict receiving a wound in the arm. His services to his beloved country did not end with his younger days, but when in 1864 the capitol at Washington was threatened, he organized a company for its defense. At the organization of the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Regiment he was elected captain of Company K, and served for a brief period. It has been recorded of him that he was a brave, popular and efficient officer and one who gained and retained the esteem of his men. He took a leading part in advancing the farming interests of the community and rendered much encouragement and help in the introduction of the best breeds of stock, his farm really becoming headquarters for sheep men, many sales of Vermont Spanish Merinos being held

here and breeders from all sections of this and surrounding states coming to recognize him as a wideawake, enthusiastic and progressive citizen. Captain Crissel was one of the best read men of his day and locality and his keen judgment and effective, incisive argument gave him great influence in political matters. He was a staunch adherent of the policies and principles of the Republican party and although he had no desire or ambition for public life, he was prevailed upon to accept several local offices, which he filled with the utmost ability. He was a popular Mason, in the circles of his lodge, as everywhere else in his contact with his fellow men, being recommended to general affection by his agreeable manners and unfailing kindness. He was called to his eternal rest February 9, 1869.

The mother of Dan B. Crissel, as previously mentioned, was the daughter of Hon. Daniel Brown, who in the year 1836 came from Tompkins county. Mr. Brown made himself the owner of one hundred and thirty-three acres of land, constituting the farm upon which Morgan Ink now resides. He cleared his farm from the forest primeval and experienced the usual hardships and joys of the pioneer. In 1853 he removed to other land located in Scipio township, this being incorporated in the James H. Knapp homestead. He enjoyed political preferment, being a member of the state legislature in 1844-5 and he was widely recognized as a leader of public thought and opinion in his locality. In the affairs of the Universalist church he took a prominent part. He was seventy-two years of age at the time of his demise in 1872, the year of his birth having been coincident with that of the beginning of the nineteenth century. His wife survived him for many years, passing away January 25, 1896, at the age of eighty-one. Mrs. Crissel was their only child. After Captain Crissel's death she became the wife of James H. Knapp, one of Seneca county's most prominent citizens.

Dan B. Crissel was the eldest of the two sons born to Captain and Mrs. Crissel. Born of such parents, blessed with such gifts of nature and nurture, it is by no means strange that he should have made a success of his own life, not merely of the material sort, but of the better sort which results in the respect of all with whom one comes in contact. He received his higher education in the old academy conducted in such an enlightened fashion by Professor J. Fraise Richards. He resided with his parents until his marriage, that happy event being celebrated November 4, 1880, and his chosen lady being Miss Jennie F. Ogden, daughter of David and Ann (Green) Ogden. For a quarter century he was enrolled among Seneca county's most progressive agriculturists. His property of one hundred and twenty acres was located in Scipio township, and was a valuable estate and a most productive one, Mr. Crissel being one to keep in touch with the latest developments in scientific agriculture. His interests were by no means limited to his own occupation, but he found time and energy for public life, for which he is eminently well fitted. In 1895 he was made a member of the infirmary board, receiving the high compliment of an eight hundred majority. He rented his farm about this time

and has ever since given a part of his energies to other lines of endeavor. A stalwart Republican, he has held various township offices, and held them ably, his services on the school board, as township trustee and as treasurer, having redounded greatly to the profit of the community.

In 1909 Mr. Crissel embarked in the coal and tile business, and has experienced great success in this line. In this he is associated with his only son, James, and a yearly business of many thousand dollars is transacted. In this, as in all other causes to which he has brought his time and attention, he has proved successful, and the new business seems destined to enjoy the sunniest skies.

Mr. Crissel's lodge relations extend to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs with the exception of the secretaryship, and of that office he is the present incumbent, having held it for thirty years. He is also a member of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and has held all the offices in the bestowal of this order, at the present time being its state representative. He is one whose social proclivities are pleasantly developed and he finds no small amount of pleasure in these affiliations. His son is a member of the I. O. O. F. and has held some of the offices.

James D. Crissel, only child of the foregoing gentleman, was born December 4, 1884. He studied in Republic's excellent schools, being graduated from its higher department with the class of 1902, and he is a graduate of the Bliss Electric School of Washington, D. C. He has been for eight years a member of Company I, Eighth Ohio National Guards. He is a worthy scion of the splendid stock from which he springs and a notable future is doubtless in store for him.

HENRY FIKE.—For fully three quarters of a century has the Fike family been identified with the great basic industry of agriculture in Seneca county, Ohio. Peter Fike, grandfather of him whose name introduces this article, was born in Germany, and in 1835 he emigrated with his wife and five children to America. He proceeded to the state of Ohio, where he reclaimed a farm in Venice township, Seneca county, and in due time he converted his two hundred and thirty acres of virgin soil into one of the model farms of the county. As pioneer citizens Mr. and Mrs. Fike contributed generously to the development and upbuilding of the new country and their memory will long be revered in the community which represented their home. They became the parents of five children, all of whom were born in the Fatherland and whose names are here entered in order of birth: Mary E., who became the wife of William Swartz, deceased; Katie, who married John A. Buckman, deceased; Mary, who became Mrs. Breigh, deceased; Peter, who was long engaged in farming in Venice township; and Adam, father of the subject of this review. Adam Fike claimed Germany as the place of his nativity and the date of his birth was 1820. He was a lad of fifteen years when he accompanied his parents on their removal to the Buckeye state and he was reared to maturity on his



father's farm in Venice township. His wife, whose maiden name was Magdelene Talman, was likewise born in Germany and she was but three years of age at the time of her parents' emigration to America in 1826. Adam Fike devoted his entire active business career to agricultural pursuits in Seneca county, and he died when but thirty-four years of age, in 1854. Adam and Magdelene (Talman) Fike became the parents of five children, namely, David, Henry, Anna, Jacob and Mary. David married Miss Mary Dichler and they became the parents of ten children: Samuel E., Christ, Harvey, George, Susan, Berget, Cora, Louise, Ida and Lizzie. Adam Fike and his family were all devout members of the German Lutheran church, in whose behalf they were zealous workers. Mrs. Fike was summoned to the life eternal in 1892, at the venerable age of sixty-nine years, deeply mourned by her children and a wide circle of devoted friends.

Henry Fike, to whom this sketch is dedicated, was born on the old homestead farm in Venice township on the 22d of February, 1848, and there he was reared to adult age, his early educational advantages being those afforded in the district schools, which he attended during the winter terms, the summer seasons being devoted to the cultivation of the farm. He initiated his independent career by purchasing a farm in his native township, which he devoted to general crops. In 1872 he became interested in mercantile business in Attica and was identified with the same for a period of six years. He was also concerned with the sale of farming machinery and with various other lines of enterprise. At the present time he is devoting the major portion of his attention to his finely improved farm of one hundred acres and he deserves recognition in this sketch as a loyal and public spirited citizen who has done much to further the civic and material progress of the community. He is a stalwart Democrat in his political proclivities and he is affiliated with various fraternal and social organizations of representative character.

In the year 1886 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Fike to Miss Elizabeth Williams, who was born in 1855 and who is a daughter of Anthony Williams, a representative farmer of Reed township, Seneca county, Ohio. To this union have been born five children: Estella M., Clare E., Ferris E., Mary and one who died in infancy. Estella M. was united in marriage, January 18, 1911, to Howard M. Martin, of Venice township, a young and prosperous farmer. He is the son of E. M. and Floue (Sherman) Martin, pioneers of Seneca county. Mr. and Mrs. Fike are both members of the Lutheran church.

ADOLPH HAURI.—The progress and enterprise of a place is determined by the quality of its business men, and the stability and sterling worth of citizens of the fine little town of Attica, Seneca county, Ohio, have contributed in no small degree to its material and civic development, making it thoroughly up-to-date with its modern conveniences—fire protection, water and light privileges, fine residences and well stocked department stores. One of the leading establishments of Attica is the store conducted by the firm

of Hauri Brothers, of which the subject of this review is the junior member, being associated in business with his brother Arnold.

Adolph Hauri was born in Reed township, this county, on the 17th of March, 1874, and Arnold Hauri was born in the same place on the 18th of June, 1872. They are the sons of Samuel and Virena (Schotzman) Hauri, both of whom were natives of Switzerland, whence they emigrated to the United States in early youth, settling in Reed township, Seneca county. Samuel and Virena Hauri became the parents of three sons: Arnold, Adolph and Otto. The latter is now engaged in concrete work at Paris, Tennessee, and in December, 1901, was solemnized his marriage to Miss Anna Valtman. They have one daughter, Ottis. Adolph and Arnold Hauri were reared on the home farm and received their early educational discipline in the common schools of Reed, Scipio and Venice townships. In 1884 they removed to Attica, their father having been summoned to the life eternal in 1882. His second wife, whose maiden name was Jane Runner, survived him by a quarter of a century, her death having occurred at Attica in 1907. No children were born of this union. In 1900 the Hauri Brothers, Adolph and Arnold, initiated their independent career by engaging in the grocery and bakery business, in which connection they conducted a most successful enterprise until 1909, at which time they purchased the entire stock of the F. C. Myers' department store, and the concern is rapidly gaining prestige as one of the most popular and prosperous establishments in the county. The brothers are men of fine executive ability and of unquestioned honesty and integrity. In politics they are independent, never manifesting aught of desire for public office, and they give their aid in support of all enterprises tending to further the general welfare of the town and county. Both are members of the German Reformed church, to whose charities they have been most liberal contributors and in a fraternal way Adolph is an appreciative member of the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics, while Arnold holds membership in the Senior Order of the same organization and he is also identified with Attica Lodge, No. 367, Free and Accepted Masons.

Adolph Hauri is a bachelor. On the 4th of March, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Arnold Hauri to Miss Alice Rush, who was born at Attica September 3, 1874, and who is a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Woolett) Rush, representative citizens of Attica. They have no children.

LEONARD L. SUTTON.—Within the confines of Seneca county will be found many representative citizens whose fair and honorable business dealings and whose sterling integrity of character have added to the dignity and prestige of this now favored section of the fine old Buckeye state. It is to be regretted that the limitations imposed by the size of this work allow us to touch but briefly upon the life history of a family whose individual members have contributed so liberally to the material development and upbuilding of the county. John Sutton, grandfather of him whose name introduces this article, was a native of the old Keystone state, his

birth occurring on the 2d of April, 1800. As a young man he moved to Steuben county, New York, and in 1854 he resolved to seek his fortune in the west and proceeded to Ohio and purchased land in Reed township. On disposing of this property he became the owner of a farm in Venice township, on which he continued to reside until a short time prior to his demise, which occurred in Attica in 1878. In early life John Sutton was an ardent Whig in his political adherency and later he aligned himself with the cause of the Abolitionist party. He was twice married. He first wedded Miss Hendershot and to this union were born six children, three of whom grew to maturity, Isaac, William and Margaret. For his second wife Mr. Sutton married Miss Christina True. They became the parents of six children, including: Lester, deceased; Susan, who is now the wife of John H. Carpenter, of Marion, Ohio; and Alva, who is the postmaster of Attica. Mrs. Christina (True) Sutton was summoned to the life eternal in 1890.

Lester Sutton, father of Leonard L., was born in Steuben county, New York, in the town of Hornell, then known as Hornells-ville, on the 13th of July, 1836. He received excellent educational advantages in his youth. After finishing the curriculum of the common schools he was graduated, at the age of eighteen years, in the academy at Republic, Ohio. He then put his scholastic attainments to practical test by engaging in the pedagogic profession, which he followed with success for a period of eight years. In 1862 he began the study of law under the able preceptorship of General Leander Stem, in Tiffin, and continued in the same until the death of General Stem, which occurred at the battle of Stone's River. Mr. Sutton then turned his attention to teaching again, in the meanwhile reading law during his leisure hours, and he was admitted to the bar in 1866. He immediately opened an office in the city of Attica, Seneca county, and here initiated the practice of his profession, in due time building up a large and lucrative clientage. In 1878 he established a private bank, known as the Banking House of Lester Sutton. The sterling integrity and the honorable business methods of the owner of this institution made it popular with the financial public from the start. In 1903 Leonard L. and Charles C. were admitted as partners to the business and the title changed to that of Lester Sutton and Sons, under which it has since remained. Mr. Sutton's services were in wide demand as public auctioneer and he was frequently appointed administrator of estates, in which connection he acquitted himself with the utmost satisfaction to all parties concerned. Mr. Sutton, during his active business career, was the founder and promoter of many of the leading business enterprises in Attica on the development of which depended in large measure the growth of the city. In politics he was an uncompromising Republican and though never a seeker of the honors or emoluments of public office he ever accorded his support to all measures and enterprises tending to conserve the welfare of the community. As a loyal and public spirited citizen, whose word was as good as his note, his memory will always be revered. His mind was of giant strength; he was broad minded and liberal in thought and action, was charitable towards others'



opinions and was ever mindful of their rights and sensibilities. In public life he was fair, honorable and outspoken, in private life he was true, kind and tender, and at all times and under all circumstances he was just, loyal and markedly courteous. Fraternally he was affiliated with Attica Lodge, No. 367, Free and Accepted Masons, and at the time of his demise, which occurred in Attica on the 18th of May, 1909, he was the last of its charter members; he was worshipful master of this lodge for thirteen consecutive years. He also held membership in the Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; and in the Commandery, Knights Templars. In the Scottish Rite Masonry he had attained to the thirty-second degree. He was an honored and appreciative member of Venice Lodge, No. 197, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and both he and his wife were active members of the Baptist church in their home city. On March 20, 1859, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Sutton to Miss Emeline Rundell, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, and who was a daughter of William and Miranda Rundell. To this union five children were born, Leonard L., concerning whom further mention will be made; Laura, who became the wife of Ross W. Ayres, a prominent business man of Chicago, Illinois, and she died August 20, 1906, while on a visit to her old home in Attica; Charles C., long associated with his father and brother in the banking business; Luella, who is the wife of E. S. Bernard, of Tiffin, Ohio; and Alice, who died in infancy. Mrs. Sutton was summoned to eternal rest on the 7th of February, 1901, deeply mourned by all who had come within the sphere of her gracious influence.

Leonard L. Sutton, to whom this sketch is dedicated, was born in Reed township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 5th of December, 1863. He received a liberal education in his youth, being graduated in Denison University as a member of the class of 1889, and receiving from this well ordered institution his well earned degree of Bachelor of Arts. He was closely identified with the business interests of his father during the latter's lifetime and no higher tribute can be accorded him than that indicated when it is stated that he is following in the footsteps of his father in his square business methods. He is affiliated with Attica Lodge, No. 367, Free and Accepted Masons, in which he has served as worshipful master; Venice Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks; and the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. In 1895 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Gertrude Wilhelm who was born in Reed township on the 26th of June, 1870, and who is a daughter of David D. and Margaret (Brillhart) Wilhelm, representative citizens of Reed township. To this union have been born three sons, Jay H., Corwin and Russell.

Charles C. Sutton, who is in partnership with his brother Leonard L. in the banking business established by their father in Attica, was born in that city on the 14th of December, 1869, and he was afforded the advantages of the public schools of Attica in his youth. Like his brother he holds membership in Attica Lodge, No. 367, Free and Accepted Masons; and in Venice Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also affiliated with the

Knights of Pythias. In 1895 he was united in marriage to Miss Eva Smith, born in Seneca on the 2d of November, 1870. She is a daughter of Rice and Elizabeth N. (Cory) Smith, of Attica. Mrs. Sutton has become the mother of one son, C. Norris. Like their late father the Sutton brothers are establishing for themselves a firm foothold in the business and social life of their home city and they are alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with every movement advanced for the progress and development of their home city and county.

LAWRENCE J. WINGART.—An esteemed and highly respected resident of Tiffin, Lawrence J. Wingart holds a place of prominence among the public officials, being widely and favorably known as county recorder of Seneca county, a position for which he is admirably fitted as well by courtesy as by capability. A son of William and Clara J. (Underwood) Wingart, he was born in Holmes township, Crawford county, Ohio, August 22, 1877. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, has for many years been identified with the advancement of the agricultural prosperity of Ohio, for many years having been engaged in farming in Crawford and Seneca counties. In 1898 he removed with his family to Seneca county, and is now a resident of Clinton township.

Reared to manhood on the home farm, Lawrence J. Wingart was well drilled in the various branches as a boy and youth, in the meantime being well prepared for a teacher in the district schools. Preferring life in the open, however, he never entered upon a professional career, but as soon as attaining his majority began farming in association with his father. Evincing a warm interest in local progress and improvements during his entire life, Mr. Wingart became influential in public affairs, and served as assessor of Pleasant township. In 1907 he removed to Melmore Eden township, where he conducted a general store for two years and while there, was treasurer for one term of Eden township which he resigned to assume his duties of recorder. In November, 1908, he was elected county recorder of Seneca county, and having assumed the duties of his position in September, 1909, has since served most faithfully.

Mr. Wingart married, February 18, 1903, Elizabeth Snyder, who was born and educated in Seneca county. Politically Mr. Wingart is a staunch supporter of the principles of the Democratic party, and fraternally he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and to lodge No. 174, B. P. O. E., of Tiffin. Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Wingart are valued members of the Reform church at Tiffin, and at one time he served as president of Pleasant township Sunday School Convention.

ERWIN D. YOUNG.—Holding an important place in the industrial life of Seneca county is Erwin D. Young of Greenspring, who with his brother Howard R. conducts the tile manufacturing business started by his father nearly thirty years ago. He was born May 27, 1880, and is the son of Josiah and Caroline (Schuster)



RESIDENCE OF JOSIAH YOUNG





Young, the former a native of Ohio and the latter a resident for some time of the state of New York. The date of the former's birth was December 5, 1850, and the latter's July 3, 1857, and their union occurred in the year 1878. Mr. Young's mother was born in Eden Center, New York, and her father was born in Germany. She is a member of the Evangelical church and one of its most earnest and valued members. The sketch of Mr. Young's parents appears elsewhere. Josiah Young was educated in the district school of the locality and when he began upon his career as a wage earner and the head of a family he located in Greenspring and started a tile manufacturing business, this step being made in 1880, the year of the subject's birth. The plant has grown steadily and has experienced a substantial gain in output and quality, a business of between six and nine thousand dollars being done yearly, and the plant having been extended until it now covers something like fifty-six acres of land, including the clay from which the tile is made.

Erwin D. Young was reared and educated at Greenspring, after his preliminary training entering the High School where he graduated and later attended the academy and graduated therein with the class of 1896. When he was nineteen years of age he went to Springfield, on a contract with the sheet and metal company of that place. He spent eight years there and it was there that he was married, on June 25, 1903, to Miss Carrie E. Tannreuther, the daughter of Fred and Gertrude (Etinger) Tannreuther. Mrs. Young was born January 8, 1880, and although her father was born in Germany her mother was born and reared in Logan, Ohio, and they now reside in Springfield, Ohio. Mrs. Young was born in the land of the stars and stripes. In 1907 Mr. Young and his family returned to Greenspring, where he with his brother, Howard R., have taken charge of the manufacturing business of their father, who is now partially retired. The factory has all the modern machinery used in the manufacture of tile and brick. The capacity of brick is something like 150,000 a year, and that of tile 400,000. This tile ranges in diameter from three inches to that of twelve inches, and the owners of the factory have practically an inexhaustable supply of clay. They are intending to enlarge the factory which is situated about one mile south of Greenspring. Mr. Young resided in town until 1909, when he built him a commodious home near the factory. In this location he finds greater convenience for the superintendency of the business which is continually becoming of larger scope. A great proportion of the product is taken by farmers who come for it to the factory.

Mr. Young is the eldest in a family of three children, the two other members of the family being Howard R., previously mentioned, and Lura May. Like his father before him he is an independent Democrat and he is a man who takes no small amount of interest in the progress of events of a public import. He is a lodge man, holding membership in both the great Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias. In the latter he has the rank of past grand chancellor. Mr. and Mrs. Young are the parents of one child, a daughter named Gertrude C., who was born November 20, 1906.

DANIEL F. SMITH.—In April, 1909, Daniel F. Smith established his home in Republic, Ohio, where he is now living virtually retired from active business affairs. For years he was engaged in agricultural pursuits in Seneca county and in this line of enterprise his success has been on a parity with his well directed endeavors. Mr. Smith was born in Scipio township, Seneca county, on the 23rd of January, 1844, and he is a son of David and Susan (Neikirk) Smith, the former of whom claimed Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, as the place of his nativity, and the latter of whom was born in Maryland. The father was born on the 31st of December, 1810, and he was summoned to the life eternal on the 26th of February, 1901, at the patriarchal age of ninety-one years. The date of Mrs. Smith's birth was April 27, 1820, and she passed away on the 26th of August, 1899, at the age of seventy-nine years. In 1835 David Smith, in company with his sister and brother-in-law, moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio and they located in a log cabin in Scipio township, Seneca county, and there began to reclaim a farm from the virgin forest. He married Miss Susan Neikirk, who was a daughter of Jacob and Margarine (Hoenish) Neikirk, the former of whom was a son of Michael Neikirk, who emigrated from Frederickstown, Maryland, to Ohio in the early pioneer days. He located with his family in the woods on what is known as the Neikirk homestead. This old homestead is situated on the Kilbern road in Scipio township and is one of the old landmarks of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of twelve children, concerning whom the following brief data are here incorporated: Catherine, is the wife of Joseph Hilsinger, of Scipio township; John R., resides in Nebraska; Daniel F., of this sketch, is the next in order of birth; David A., of Scipio township; Mary A., who is the wife of A. J. Neikirk, of Bellevue, Huron county, Ohio; Harriet, who married Edson Gray, of Scipio township; Henry J., who maintains his home in Oklahoma; Isaac, of Scipio township; James, of Clinton township; Emmett, who is deceased; Ella, who is the wife of Douglas DeWitt, of Clinton township; and Rolla, of Oklahoma. A remarkable feature in connection with this large family is that throughout his entire life the father never expended as much as one hundred dollars for family doctor bills. Mr. Smith was a carpenter by trade and prior to his death he was the originator and largely interested in the Seneca County Mutual Fire Association. He was a staunch adherent of the Democratic party in his political convictions, and both he and his wife were devout members of the English Lutheran church. They were both highly honored citizens in Seneca county and did much to advance the civic and material welfare of their home community.

Daniel F. Smith, to whom this sketch is dedicated, availed himself of the advantages afforded in the common schools of his native county and he continued to maintain his home under the paternal roof until his marriage, March 30, 1873. His first teacher was Clerry Stryker, his wife's uncle. After his marriage Mr. Smith initiated his independent business career as a farmer and he continued to be identified with agricultural pursuits in Scipio township until 1909, when he removed to the village of Republic,



where he is deeply interested in public affairs of a local nature, being at the present time one of the village councilmen. He is much interested in educational matters and is serving as a member of the school board. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with Hildreth Lodge, No. 165, Free and Accepted Masons, in which he is past worshipful master and which he has represented in the Grand Lodge of the state. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Eastern Star.

In 1873 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Smith to Miss Mary Gray, who was born in Scipio township on the 19th of January, 1851, and who is a daughter of Samuel B. and Jane (Stryker) Gray, both of whom were born and reared in the old Empire state of the union. They came from Steuben county, New York, to Seneca county, Ohio, about the year 1832, and here the father was engaged in farming until his death. Mrs. Gray was summoned to the life eternal when her daughter Mary (Gray) Smith was an infant two weeks old. Mrs. Smith was reared and educated in New York, in the home of her maternal grandmother, and she returned to Ohio when eighteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of six children, namely, Nellie, who was born on the 21st of January, 1874, is the wife of Robert Smith, of Republic; Susie was born July 5, 1879, and she died on the 21st of July, 1892; Arvilla, who was born on the 31st of March, 1882, is the wife of Walter Anway, of Republic; Belva L., who was born on the 6th of October, 1886, married Frank Carpenter and they reside in Chicago, Ohio; Leona F., was born on the 16th of September, 1891, and she remains at home with her parents; and Ola M., who was born on the 4th of July, 1896, is now attending school in Republic. It is interesting to note that Daniel F. Smith has in his possession his grandfather's old clock, which his parents had when they were married. This clock was made by the first Hilsinger to come to this county, his son being now the husband of Mr. Smith's sister, as previously noted. The attractive home of the Smith family in Republic is recognized as a center of gracious and refined hospitality and the young daughters who remain at home are popular factors in connection with the best social activities of the village.

FRED J. COOK.—One of the foremost agriculturists and horse dealers in Seneca county, Ohio, is Fred J. Cook, who was reared in this county and who is a scion of an old German family, his parents, Henry and Elizabeth (Detterman) Koch, having come to America in the year 1854. The father was born in Vesfalan, Germany, on the 4th of January, 1818, and the mother was born in the same place November 7, 1823. The family name, which was originally spelled Koch, as noted, is spelled Cook by the present generation. Mr. and Mrs. Koch located on a farm in Adams township, this county. The father through native thrift and industry made a decided success of farming as a vocation and at the time of his death, August 6, 1890, was one of the most prosperous citizens in this section of the fine old Buckeye state. He was a staunch advocate of the cause of the Democratic party in his political con-

victions and he and his wife were devout members of the Reformed church. Elizabeth Detterman Koch died August 20, 1890, just two weeks after her husband's death. They became the parents of nine children, concerning whom the following facts are offered: Catherine is the wife of Melchoir Kechley and they reside in Nebraska; Harmon is deceased; Henry is engaged in farming near Attica; Fred J., is the immediate subject of this review; Lewis is deceased; Eliza is the wife of J. W. Cole, of Tiffin; John W., resides at Republic, Ohio, and a sketch of his career appears on other pages of this work; Annie married R. Straub, of Scipio township; and Daniel F., resides in Thompson township.

Fred J. Cook attended the public schools of Adams township until he had attained to the age of twelve years and thereafter he was a student in the Scipio schools until he was eighteen years old. He resided with his parents until his marriage, December 6, 1877, at which time he initiated independent operations as a farmer on a tract of forty acres of land in Scipio township, where he devoted his attention to general farming and the buying and selling of western horses. He has increased his original farm by the addition of different tracts of land until he now owns some two hundred and fifty-one acres of most arable land, which is in a high state of cultivation. In politics Mr. Cook accords an uncompromising allegiance to the cause of the Democratic party, and he and his wife are devout members of the Reformed church, of which he has served as deacon the most of his married life. He has been a member of the school board for the past thirty-three years and he is a most loyal supporter of all measures projected for the good of the community.

In the year 1877 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cook to Miss Anna E. Hoppel, who was born in Adams township on the 21st of August, 1858, a daughter of Conrad and Catherine (Buckhold) Hoppel. The father was born and reared in Germany and the mother, a native of Scipio township, and concerning whose history further data are given in the sketch dedicated to Warren Hoppel on other pages of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Cook became the parents of seven children, namely: Stella T., born February 25, 1879, remains at the parental home; Arthur B., born October 4, 1881, has spent the last three years on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land in South Dakota; Charles W., born November 28, 1886, married Mabel H. Westerhouse, in 1908, and they maintain their home in Scipio township, this county, on one of the family farms; L. Hale, born on the 6th of May, 1889, was married February 8, 1911, to Nina B. Boldoser, of Scipio township, and they now occupy the old homestead recently vacated by his father and mother who have added to their holdings of Scipio township property by the purchase of a home of sixteen acres and five brick dwellings within the corporate limits of Republic; Rollie F., at home, born October 25, 1891; Roxy C., born June 25, 1897; and Dora A., born February 14, 1900. All the children have been afforded excellent educational advantages and the two younger ones are still in school.

**JOHN SPENCER.**—A representative farmer and a Civil war *vétéran* whose service to his country in her time of need was of the most patriotic and loyal order, John Spencer was born in Venice township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 27th of January, 1836, and he is a son of Huckins and Mary (Bingham) Spencer, the former of whom was born in the state of Maine, on August 7, 1804, and the latter in Ireland, June 30, 1807. Mary (Bingham) Spencer came to America when a child of eight years and lived in Richland county until her marriage. In 1836 Mr. and Mrs. Spencer removed to Seneca county, where they purchased a farm of forty acres, on which they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Spencer died in 1852 as the result of injuries received by an accidental shot gun wound, and Mrs. Spencer passed to eternal rest in 1860. They became the parents of ten children, whose names and respective dates of birth are here entered: Ichabod, November 20, 1827; William, November 22, 1829; Mary J., November 18, 1831; Dorothea, April 4, 1833; John, January 27, 1836; Ellen, October 18, 1839; Abigail, May 8, 1841; Samuel, September 24, 1843; James, April 8, 1845; and Francis M., March 25, 1850. Of this number John (of this sketch), Ellen, Samuel and James are now living, (1910).

John Spencer was the fifth in order of birth and he was sixteen years of age at the time of his father's death. He was reared to maturity on the home farm and received a good common school education. He is essentially a self made man and his present success and prosperity are the result of his own well directed endeavors and his close application to duty and business. In 1866 he purchased a tract of forty acres of land in Seneca county, to which in due time he added two hundred and sixty acres more, this making a fine farm of three hundred acres. At the time when the integrity of the nation was jeopardized by open rebellion John Spencer gave proof of his intrinsic patriotism by enlisting as a private in Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, on the 22nd of August, 1862. He participated with his regiment in the following engagements: Winchester, New Market, Lynchburg, Snickers Ferry, Berrysville, Opequan, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, Petersburg, High Bridge and Appomattox Court House, all in the state of Virginia. On June 15, 1863, he was captured at Winchester and conveyed to Libby prison, his parole being effected in July of that year. He rejoined his command at Martinsburg, Virginia. He was recaptured at High Bridge on April 16, 1865, being released three days later on the surrender of General Lee and the close of the war. He received his honorable discharge on the 12th of June, 1865. His brother James served in the same command as did John. Samuel Spencer enlisted in the Fourteenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, while William and Ichabod Spencer served in the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. All were gallant, dashing soldiers, whose courage and faithfulness were of the highest order. John Spencer has ever retained a deep and abiding interest in his old comrades in arms and the same is evidenced by his membership in Rice & Creglen Post, No. 112, Grand Army of the Republic. In



politics he is a staunch advocate of the cause of the Republican party and he has ever accorded a strong support to all measures and enterprises advanced for the furtherance of the good of the community. As a citizen and business man Mr. Spencer's career stands as an example of that old time integrity so rare in the rush of modern American life and withal so worthy of emulation, and his record thus far will bear the searchlight of the fullest investigation. It may be said of him that his circle of friends is limited only by that of his acquaintances. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Baptist church.

On the 21st of March, 1861, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Spencer to Miss Mary A. Todd, who was born in Venice township, Seneca county, on the 30th of January, 1840, and who is a daughter of John and Mary A. Todd, both of whom were natives of Columbiana county, Ohio. The former was born on the 15th of April, 1812, and the latter on the 7th of June, 1811. Mr. and Mrs. Todd moved to Seneca county about the year 1830 and they purchased eighty acres of land in Venice township, where they constructed a log house and endured the privations and vicissitudes of early pioneer life. They became the parents of ten children, three of whom were valiant soldiers in the Civil war. Michael Todd served in Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Alexander and John enlisted in the Forty-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. This shows a remarkable record for two families, the furnishing of eight able bodied men for the subjection of rebellion and the preservation of the union. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer became the parents of four children, concerning whom the following brief record is here incorporated; Ira E., who was born on the 6th of March, 1862, married Miss Amanda Shuly and no children were born of this union; Sheridan J., who was born on the 21st of February, 1866, married Miss Melissa M. Springer and they have one son, Clarence J.; Silas B., was born on the 25th of August, 1868, and died in March, 1872; and James M., who was born on the 10th of February, 1872, married Miss Florence Trexell and they have two children, Lloyd and Doris.

JOHN W. COOK.—A citizen who has gained distinctive precedence and prestige in the industrial and financial affairs of Seneca county is John W. Cook, who was born in Adams township, this county, on the 24th of September, 1860. He is a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Detterman) Koch (now spelled Cook), both of whom were born and reared in Germany, whence they came to America about the year 1854, locating in Adams township, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits. With practically nothing to begin with Mr. Henry Koch through earnest industry and thrift managed to accumulate considerable property and he saw each of his nine children established in fine homes prior to his death. Henry Koch was a Democrat in politics and both he and his wife were devout members of the Reformed church, in whose affairs they took an active part. Mr. and Mrs. Koch became the parents of nine children, and concerning them the following

brief data is here incorporated: Catherine became the wife of Melchoir Keechley and they reside in Nebraska; Harmon is deceased; Henry is engaged in farming near Attica; Fred J. resides in Scipio township; Lewis is deceased; Eliza is the wife of J. W. Cole, of Tiffin; John W. is the immediate subject of this review; Annie married R. Straub, of Scipio township; and Daniel F. resides in Thompson township.

John W. Cook received an excellent common school education in his youth and he continued to reside on the old homestead farm until his marriage, in 1887. He is still engaged in farming on his farm of eighty acres in Scipio township. Mr. Cook was one of the organizers of the Republic Banking Company, a substantial monetary institution which was founded in 1903 and which is incorporated under the laws of the state with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars. Of this company Mr. Knapp is president and Mr. Cook is giving efficient service as vice president. In politics Mr. Cook is a staunch adherent of the principles of the Democratic party, in the local councils of which he has been most active. In 1908 he was elected county commissioner and he was re-elected to this office in 1910. He takes a keen and intelligent interest in educational affairs and has served as a member of the school board for a period of twenty years. He is affiliated with the Ohio Protective Association and his religious faith is in harmony with the teachings of the Reformed church, in which he holds the office of trustee. His wife was likewise a devout member of the Reformed church. As a citizen Mr. Cook is recognized as a liberal minded and public spirited man and he manifests a deep interest in all matters projected for the general welfare of the community.

In 1887 was recorded the marriage of Mr. Cook to Miss Maggie Cole, who was born and reared in Seneca county and who was a daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Thompson) Cole. Mr. Cole was officially connected with Adams township for several years and he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church in Reed township. He was a farmer by vocation and he was summoned to the life eternal on the 18th of May, 1896, his cherished and devoted wife having passed away on the 17th of May, 1886. After the death of his wife Mr. Cole resided with Mr. and Mrs. Cook until he was himself called from the scene of his mortal endeavors. Mrs. Cook died on the 22nd of March, 1908, deeply mourned by all who had come within the sphere of her gracious influence.

W. H. AND C. C. PITCHER.—In this age of advanced civilization and phenomenal progress it is the man whose energy is on a par with his ambition that forges and makes a name for himself and with him success is not an accident but a logical result. Through their own well directed efforts the Pitcher Brothers have built up their present prosperous enterprise, that of supplying the citizens of Attica with pure milk and cream. They observe all the sanitary and pure food laws in the handling and sterilizing of their product. They own and operate one hundred and sixteen acres of land in Venice township, this county, and they have large

herds of Jersey, Holstein and Durham cows, whose daily output averages no less than thirty-five gallons of fine rich milk per day. The business was begun in November, 1909, and their marked success is evidenced by the ever increasing patronage which they enjoy.

William H. Pitcher was born in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 13th of January, 1868, and his brother, Clinton G., was born in the same place on the 3rd of August, 1871, they being the sons of William H. and Hannah H. (Hanford) Pitcher, both of whom are natives of Ohio. They removed to Seneca county in 1864 and the father became identified with the hotel business in the city of Attica. Mr. and Mrs. Pitcher reared a family of five children, namely: Frank B., Lottie L., Edwin K., William H. and Clinton C., the latter two being the subjects of this brief review. Mr. W. H. Pitcher, Sr., was summoned to the life eternal in 1899 and is survived by his widow and five children; Mrs. Pitcher now maintains her home at Attica. W. H. and C. C. Pitcher are both staunch advocates of the principles and policies of the Republican party and they give their aid in support of all measures and enterprises projected for the general welfare of the community. William H. was engaged in the barber business in Columbus and Toledo, Ohio, for about twenty years and through his thrift and industry he managed to save up enough capital to enter into partnership with his brother in the dairy business. In the year 1889 he was united in marriage to Miss Cecil A. White, who was born in Wayne county and who is a daughter of George and Tenie (Gast) White, both of whom are now deceased. No children have been born to this union. Clinton C. is a painter and paper hanger by trade and he followed this line of business for a period of fifteen years or until 1909 the time of the formation of the firm of Pitcher Brothers, which enterprise has already been described. In 1891 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary A. Wilcox, who is a native of Erie, where her birth occurred on the 10th of April, 1872, she being a daughter of Isaac and Mary A. (Reed) Wilcox, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Pitcher are the parents of three children, whose names are here entered in order of birth, Carl C., Ronald W. and Ruth N.

The Pitcher Brothers are both affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and W. H. is also a member of the Improved Order of Moose. C. C. holds membership in the Universalist church as does also his wife.

AARON KISTLER.—One of Scipio township's wealthiest and most prominent men is Aaron Kistler. His entire life has been passed here and he has risen through his own efforts from the humblest beginnings to his present substantial position. For thirty years he devoted his energies to general agriculture, but in 1893 he took up stock and horse shipping and has achieved remarkable financial success in this line.

Aaron Kistler was born November 3, 1843, and is the son of Michael and Saloma (Fritz) Kistler, natives of Pennsylvania. These worthy people were preceded by two years by the subject's



grandparents, Michael and Sallie (Hoppis) Kistler. They were the first of the name in the county, having arrived within Seneca's boundaries in the year 1831. They located in Adams township on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and were among the earliest pioneers. The Kistlers are a hardy race and men more dauntless than they might have faltered before the task of bringing to a habitable and tillable state the splendid untamed acres. A wild young virgin country will yield her strength only to men of strength and daring and youth. Mr. Kistler's father when he came was compelled to blaze the road from the trail to his property, and in every respect conditions were primitive indeed.

In Pennsylvania in his younger days the father combined distilling and tanning with his farming, and Mr. Kistler still possesses his old account book written in German. He had been one to make the most of his opportunities, for he had but thirteen days of schooling in the whole course of his youth. Mr. Kistler knew the healthy appetite which comes from strenuous labor, for he drove a horse power thrasher from July until late winter, his feet stockingless and encased in cowhide boots. There were eleven children in the family and stockings were unthought of luxuries. The names of the brothers and sisters were: Mary A., Michael, David, Polly, Levi, Lovina, Sarah J., Joseph, Sallie and Julia A., Aaron Kistler being eighth in order of birth.

Aaron Kistler resided under the parental roof-tree until his marriage. The young woman to become his wife was Mary E. Detterman, and their union was celebrated December 31, 1863. One child, a daughter named Mary J., was born January 3, 1865, and she married Warren F. Miller, of Scipio township. They became the parents of two sons: Ralph, who lived until he was past twenty-one, when he died, and Grover, who was named in honor of President Cleveland and who married Laura Corthell, of Clinton township, in 1907. On February 1, 1866, Mrs. Kistler was summoned to the other world. Mr. Kistler was again married, June 10, 1866, Miss Molly Rinehold being united to him in the holy bonds of matrimony. She was born March 12, 1844, and is the daughter of George and Sallie (Smith) Rinehold, Pennsylvanians who came here from the Keystone state about 1832 and located in Scipio township on the Cook farm.

Mr. Kistler farmed actively for about thirty years after establishing a separate household. Later, as mentioned in preceding paragraphs he branched out into the stock shipping business. He also buys horses in the west and ships them to this state, where they are sold after being fitted for the market. At an early age he took up the study of veterinary medicine and surgery, and for a time practiced with his father. His practice at the present time is large and he has three hundred accounts per year upon his books.

The subject has also played a prominent and praiseworthy role in political matters. He is a loyal Democrat, having supported the policies of this party since he cast his first vote and he has given service in several offices. He held the office of justice of the peace for six terms, his present term to expire in the year 1912. He has been township trustee and a member of the school

board, and the fact that he is the champion of good education does not arise from the fact that in his own youth he enjoyed exceptional opportunities, for in point of fact, he attended school but twenty-four days after he reached his fourteenth year. He has effectively remedied what deficiencies may have existed, for he is a student and great reader. He has read the Bible through twice from beginning to end and is an authority on Biblical topics. He is nearly as much at home with the German language as he is with the English, having perfected his German by a comparison of German and English Bibles. He is a consistent member of the Reformed church and belongs to the Ohio Protective Association. He enjoys the confidence of all who know him; has acted as executor of several estates and enjoys a reputation as a good appraiser of land; and he has several times served on the jury.

In 1899 Mr. Kistler removed from Adams township to Republic, where he now makes his home, although at the same time spending a good deal of time upon his country estate, which has excellent buildings, a large brick residence of nine rooms and a great barn, thirty-five by ninety-two feet in dimension. There are numerous outbuildings, the corn barn being twenty-four by twenty-four feet. The Kistler farm has nine miles of tile drainage. In addition to his many other interests Mr. Kistler is a director of the Republic Bank, of which institution he was one of the organizers.

CHARLES H. KERNAN, superintendent of the national home of the Junior Order United American Mechanics at Tiffin, Ohio, is a man especially fitted for the work in which he is engaged.

Professor Kernan was born and reared in New York state. After completing his studies in the graded schools he was sent to Amsterdam Academy, and later was a student in the Potsdam Normal School, St. Lawrence, New York, where he received special training for the profession of teaching, and he has ever since been engaged in educational work. For ten years he was principal of the Orient High School, Long Island, New York, and in September, 1900, was appointed to the position he now occupies. His accomplished wife, who before marriage was Miss Louise Bowland and who is a native of Maryland, is chief matron of the institution. They have four children, Ruth, Allen, Esther and Dorothea, who attend school at the home.

The Junior Order United American Mechanics home, a national institution, was established in 1896, on a farm of one hundred and seventy-six acres in Clinton township, Seneca county, one mile and a quarter north of Tiffin, and is supported by the membership of the order in all the different states of the union. Its buildings, eight in number, are soon to be increased by a thirty thousand dollar school house, erected by the order in the state of Ohio. The school includes an industrial department. Six teachers, especially fitted for their respective lines of work, are employed, and the students in attendance at this writing represent twenty-three different states, they being children of deceased members of the order in good standing at time of death. On Sundays

devotional exercises are conducted by pastors of the different churches of Tiffin, including the Baptist church of which Mr. Kernan is a member. Mrs. Kernan is a member of Trinity Episcopal church.

In addition to the Junior Order United American Mechanics Mr. Kernan belongs to various other fraternal organizations. He has membership in Tiffin Lodge, No. 77, F. and A. M., and Seneca Chapter, Council and Commandery at Tiffin, and is a thirty-second degree Mason of Toledo Consistory; is also a member of the Knights of Pythias No. 80, and the Royal Arcanum, and he is an associate member of the G. A. R.

VERN CARY.—The hope of Seneca county rests upon her younger generation, and one of her worthy young citizens is Vern Cary, who is a native of the county and a progressive and successful agriculturist. He was born in Seneca county March 1, 1886, the son of James McCord Cary and his wife, whose maiden name was Mary L. Brown. It was Seneca county that witnessed the birth of the father, although preceding generations of the family have been natives of the New England states, that cradle of so much of our national history. James Cary led the usual existence of the youth of the early days, working diligently upon the farm during the summer months and attending the district school in the winter. Until he became eighteen years of age he thus alternated his seasons of duty behind a desk in the school room and behind the plow and the harvester, but when he reached the age mentioned above he started out to make his way in life alone. He secured work as a farm hand and by the exercise of industry and thrift ultimately came to be numbered among the prosperous land holders. He married, the lady to become his wife being a native of Huron county and in addition to him whose name initiates this review he and his wife were the parents of Irvin Cary, Harold Cary and Corris Cary. The father was a Republican in politics and he and his wife were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church. The father was called to his eternal rest in 1907, but the mother survives and makes her residence on the old homestead in Reed township.

Vern Cary attended the district school, enjoying to the fullest degree the educational advantages of Seneca county. Under the excellent tutelage of his father he learned the manifold secrets of agriculture and when it came to choosing a life work he decided in favor of that occupation which had engrossed the attention of his immediate forbears. After the death of his father the management of the farm fell upon the shoulders of Mr. Cary and his brother Harold and their enlightened methods have been productive of the best results. Like his father he gives his heart and hand to the principles and policies of the Republican party. He is public spirited and his past record points to a useful and successful career.

FRED M. SMITH.—A native son of Republic, Seneca county, Ohio, and a scion of fine old families of the Buckeye state, Fred



M. Smith was born on the 5th of November, 1879, and is a son of Martin and Mary J. (Harvey) Smith. The father was born in Seneca county on the 4th of March, 1840, and he was summoned to the life eternal on the 5th of April, 1903. During his active business career he was identified principally with bridge work in this county, his trade being that of stone mason. On the 20th of December, 1862, he married Miss Mary J. Harvey, whose birth occurred in Madison county, Ohio, on the 4th of April, 1845. Martin Smith was aligned as a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Democratic party during his life time and he served several times on the jury. He and his wife became the parents of six children, of which number Fred M., of this sketch, was the fifth in order of birth.

Fred M. Smith was reared to maturity and educated in Republic, having attended the high school of this place. At the time of the inception of the Spanish-American war, in 1898, he enlisted as a member of Company E, Second regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served for a period of ten months. He entered the federal service as mail carrier in 1903. In politics Mr. Smith accords a stanch allegiance to the cause of the Republican party and he has done much to advance the general welfare of the community. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

On the 20th of December, 1899, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Smith to Miss Lucy R. George, a native of Richland county, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Sarah (Williams) George, both of whom were born and reared in Pennsylvania, whence they removed to Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of three children, namely: Elizabeth, Catherine and Georgie, all of whom remain at the paternal home. Mrs. Smith was summoned to the life eternal on the 19th of April, 1908. She was a woman of most gracious refinement and was dearly beloved by all who came within the sphere of her gentle influence. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Snyder, of Tiffin, under the auspices of the Rebekah lodge of Republic. Mrs. Smith was a prominent member of the Daughters of Rebekah.

JOHN W. SCOTT.—This prominent citizen of Seneca county was born in Pennsylvania March 4, 1868, a son of John B. and Patience (Blackwell) Scott, natives of England. Mr. Scott came to the United States in 1859 and Mrs. Scott in 1855, with her father, Thomas Blackwell, who located in Akron, Ohio. Mr. Scott settled at Titusville, Venango county, Pennsylvania, and he was engaged in the oil business there from 1860 to 1882. He was born March 11, 1834.

John W. Scott lived with his parents till he married Miss Annie Altmire, who was born April 1, 1872, a daughter of Theodore and Matilda (Uhrey) Altmire, representatives of old Pennsylvania families. Mr. and Mrs. Scott have four children: Walter, born January 21, 1896; Nellie, born December 21, 1898; Ruth, born February 28, 1900; William, born July 23, 1909. Mrs. Scott was educated in the common schools of Butler county, Pennsyl-

vania, and was married in Butler county December 18, 1894. Her parents are now conducting a store in Hilliard, Pennsylvania. The father was formerly a coal miner and has been in charge of the store for twenty-eight years. He is a member of the Catholic church, while his wife is a Lutheran. Mrs. Scott has brothers and sisters as follows: Cora, who married Roy Hutchinson and resides in Sharon, Pennsylvania; Charles, resides in Greenville, Pennsylvania, and is an engineer on the railroad; Mildred and Nellie are at home and Florence resides in Butler, Pennsylvania. Mr. Scott's brothers and sisters are as follows: George B. was formerly an engineer at the Greenspring Pumping Station, and his death occurred September 18, 1906; William is a conductor on the Bedford & Lake Erie Railroad; Olive married Camden McKeen and resides in Butler, Pennsylvania; and Nellie married Francis P. Honaway and resides in Colliers, West Virginia.

Educated so far as he found it practicable to be in the common schools of Pennsylvania, Mr. Scott began his career as an oil man when he was about six months in his sixteenth year. At first he was a water boy, but rapid promotion put him in the connection gang, made him a pumpman, a foreman, an engineer and chief in charge of a station at Greenspring, Ohio. He has as fine a plant as one would be likely to see in many days travel, and his management of it and his manner of doing business mark him as a first class oil man and as a business man of uncommon ability.

Mr. Scott is an independent Republican, a seventh degree Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a member of the Knights of the Maccabees. In some of these societies he has been called to official positions.

In many ways Mr. Scott has demonstrated that he is a man of that quality of public spirit that makes him useful when work is to be done for the general good. In fact there is no movement at Greenspring having for its object the enhancement of the public weal that does not have his cordial co-operation.

FRANK B. SHANK.—A man who stands high among his fellows and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him is Frank B. Shank, a native of Huron county, where his birth occurred August 18, 1864. On both sides of the family he is German in descent and partakes in fullest measure of those stanch characteristics which make the Teutonic emigrant one of the most welcome to American shores. His father, Frank Shank was born in Germany, and when a boy about fourteen years of age came here in company with his parents. They first located in Sandusky, Ohio, where the subject's grandfather secured means of livelihood, but he and his family subsequently removed to Seneca county. It was there that Frank Shank supplemented such education as he had received in his native country. He took as his wife Marguerite Ball, also a German, and the children of these worthy people were as follows: Mary, who married Ben Long and resides in Huron county; Will, a citizen of Huron county; Fred, also a resident of Huron county; Kate, wife of John Swartz, of Huron county; Aggie, wife of Lorenzo Faulter, of Venice township, Seneca coun-

ty; and Henry, of Huron county. The subject's father was devoted to the policies and principles of the Democratic party and at one time held the office of school director. He died September 12, 1898, the mother surviving until 1910. The family are Catholic in faith.

Frank Benjamin Shank secured his education in the district schools of Huron county and upon his father's farm received a thorough training in the various departments of agriculture. When it became time for him to choose a life work he decided in favor of agriculture and has made a success of his endeavors in the great basic industry. He has resided in Seneca county for twenty years and each year has added to the security of his standing in the community. One evidence out of a host of these is the fact that he rented a farm from Judge McCauley for a continuous term of eleven years and there was never any form of writing between them.

In the matter of politics Mr. Shank resembles his father and subscribes to the articles of faith of the Democratic party. He has had some experience in public office, having served six years as school director and two terms as township trustee. In addition to his operations in general agriculture he is a breeder of Aberdeen Angus cattle and Poland China hogs.

On October 8, 1889, Mr. Shank established a household of his own by his union with Elizabeth Ball, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Schwartz) Ball, of German extraction. Her father was called to his eternal rest in the month of April, 1902, and her mother survives and makes her home in Tiffin. The birth of Mrs. Shank occurred in Seneca county May 20, 1874. She is of a family of ten living brothers and sisters, one of the members being deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Shank have the following children: Mark Harry, Lillie, Urban and Walter S.

ERNEST G. ALLGYRE.—Germany has contributed its fair quota to the development and upbuilding of this country of complex nationalities and among its representatives are found citizens who are ever ready to extend their aid in time of war and who in the "piping times of peace" foster and support our national institutions and set a fair example of thrift, sturdy integrity and indomitable perseverance. Of this admirable type of American citizenship is Ernest G. Allgyre, who was born at Caroline, Venice township, Seneca county, Ohio, in 1870, of German parentage. He is a son of Jacob and Mary (Grewer) Allgyre, both of whom were born in the empire of Germany, whence they emigrated in 1851, to the United States and located in Sandusky, this state. Remaining here one year, they removed to Crawford county, where they spent one year in New Washington and in 1853 they established a permanent home in Caroline, Seneca county, where the father followed his trade, that of blacksmith, and where he is remembered as a loyal and public spirited citizen.

Ernest G. Allgyre received his early educational training in his native place and initiated his independent career by engaging in his father's trade, following the same with marked success for



a period of five years. At the present time he is proprietor of the Attica hotel, one of the oldest and most popular hostleries in northern Ohio. This well known hotel was built in 1840 and has stood as a landmark during the long intervening years. In 1908 Mr. Allgyre purchased the property and reconstructed and remodeled it till it is now one of modern convenience and comfort. The genial personality of the host as coupled with the gracious qualities of Mrs. Allgyre make this hotel most popular with the traveling public. It is centrally located, well ventilated and is proverbial for its cleanliness and fine table. Mr. Allgyre is independent in his political convictions and he is ever ready to give his aid in support of all measures and enterprises projected for the advancement of the general welfare of the community which has long represented his home.

In 1896 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Allgyre to Miss Alice M. Ewart, who was born in Washington, Pennsylvania, and who is a daughter of Oliver Ewart, a representative citizen of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Allgyre are the parents of two children, Mamie C. and Frederick J., both of whom are attending the public school in Attica.

GEORGE ZIEGLER.—On his finely improved farm of two hundred acres, eligibly located nine miles southeast of Tiffin, Seneca county, and one mile east of Melmore, Ohio, Mr. George Ziegler is engaged in agricultural pursuits and in the raising of high grade cattle, hogs and sheep. It has been his to achieve most noteworthy success in his chosen field of endeavor and he has also been prominent in connection with political affairs of a local nature in his home county.

Mr. Ziegler was born on the old homestead farm in Eden township, Seneca county, on the 10th of November, 1865, and is a son of Henry and Louisa (Keller) Ziegler, both of whom were born in Germany. George Ziegler is indebted to the common schools of his native county for his early educational advantages, having been a student during the winter terms until he was eighteen years of age. He then initiated his independent career as a farmer and soon thereafter he was married. He now owns and operates a valuable estate of two hundred acres nine miles southeast of Tiffin and besides his devotion to diversified agriculture he is engaged extensively in stock raising, preferring Durham cattle and Poland China and Chester hogs. He markets a car and a half each year of hogs. He also has two hundred head of Delaine sheep, from which he clips annually eighteen hundred pounds of wool.

In politics Mr. Ziegler is aligned as a stalwart in the ranks of the Democratic party on all national questions but in local affairs he maintains an independent attitude, preferring to give his support to men and measures meeting with the approval of his judgment. In 1909 he was given proof of popular confidence and esteem in that he was then elected township trustee. He has served as a member of the school board for three years and is now a member of the election board. He is a loyal and public spirited

citizen and gives most freely of his aid and influence in support of all movements projected for the general welfare of the community. He and his wife are devout members of the Reformed church and they are most popular factors in the best social circles of their home county.

In the year 1895 Mr. Ziegler was united in marriage to Miss Lizzie Hunsicker, who was born at Crawford county and who is a daughter of William and Catherine (Lust) Hunsicker, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they came to Ohio, where the father engaged in farming. Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler became the parents of five children, namely: Jessie, Calvin, Frona M., Forest E. and Harold M., all of whom are attending school.

JOSEPH L. ANWAY.—A native son of Seneca county, Joseph L. Anway has passed his entire life thus far in this section of the state and though now an octogenarian he still retains in much of their strength and pristine vigor the excellent mental and physical powers of his youth. He was born on the old homestead farm in Scipio township, Seneca county, on the 13th of October, 1829, and is a son of William and Eliza (Lapham) Anway, the former of whom was born on the 13th of January, 1803, and the latter on the 27th of January, 1809, both being natives of New York. William Anway was a son of William and Hannah (Hall) Anway, both of whom were born in New York, whence they came to Ohio about 1823, at which time the son William was about twenty-one years of age. They named Scipio township after their old home township in Seneca county, New York, and they took up their abode in an old hut on the grounds where the depot now stands, they being the first white people to settle in this township. On the 13th of January, 1824, they entered a tract of three hundred and twenty acres of government land one mile south of Republic. They had children as follows: John, Susan, George, David A., Fanny, Phoebe, Harrison, Harvey, William and Rastus. William next to the youngest in order of birth of the above children, resided with his parents on the old home farm until his marriage, on the 8th of March, 1827. He received an eighty-acre tract of his father's land and became a successful agriculturist in this county. He was originally an old line Whig in politics and when the Republican party was organized in 1858, he became aligned as a supporter of its principles and policies. He was one of the first officials in the township and he was summoned to the life eternal on the 9th of June, 1863, at the age of sixty-one years. His wife passed away on the 31st of July, 1881. Mr. Anway was a very enterprising and public spirited citizen, taking an active interest in the local schools and churches. He held a scholarship in the Seneca county academy and was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church, contributing most liberally to the building fund of the church and giving generously to its charities and benevolences. William and Eliza (Lapham) Anway became the parents of four children, Joseph L., the immediate subject of this review; William H., who was born on the 22nd of June, 1833; Morgan H., born July 14, 1840; and Phoebe Jane, born April 22, 1845. William

H. resides in Republic; Morgan H., resides on a portion of his grandfather's estate; and Phoebe lives on the old homestead with Joseph L.

Joseph L. Anway was reared to the sturdy discipline of the old home farm, in the work and management of which he early became associated with his father. He afforded the advantages of the common schools of his native county and later entered Seneca County Academy, which he attended for several years. That he put his scholastic acquirements to good use is evident when it is stated that prior to his marriage he taught for several terms in schools in Scipio and Reed townships. He spent most of the time at home with his parents until he had attained to the age of twenty-four years and he then initiated his independent operations as a farmer, beginning on an eighty acre tract which he had received from his father. His present finely improved farm consists of two hundred and seventy acres and is eligibly located in Scipio township, near Republic. In politics he accords a staunch allegiance to the principles and policies for which the Republican party stands sponsor and he has ever shown a keen and intelligent interest in public affairs in the county. He has held the office of township trustee for eighteen consecutive years and has given efficient service as a member of the school board for fully a score of years. Fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Republic, having been affiliated with this organization for a period of forty-two years and being the oldest member in the state. He holds membership in Republic Lodge, No. 40, and became noble grand when eighty-one years of age. His religious belief is in harmony with the tenets of the Methodist Episcopal church and both he and his wife have been active factors in connection with the different departments of the church work.

Mr. Anway has been twice married, his first union being with Miss Betsy A. Thompson, the ceremony having been performed on the 6th of October, 1852. She was summoned to the life eternal on the 31st of October, 1864, and on the 16th of December, 1869, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Anway to Miss Mariette E. Ames, who was born in Seneca county and who is a daughter of Charles and Alvira (Higley) Ames, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of New York. Mr. Anway's grandfather, David Ames, was a sea saptain on the Great Lakes. By his first marriage Mr. Anway became the father of three children, Martha, Ida J. and Adda M., the latter being the wife of E. Ogden, of Republic. No children have been born of the second marriage.

LEWIS S. WESTERHOUSE.—It is pleasing to the publishers of this compilation to incorporate within its pages a brief review of the career of one who is a native son of this county and who has passed practically his entire life thus far within its borders. Lewis S. Westerhouse was born in Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 21st of August, 1852, and is a son of John H. and Catherine M. (Sherman) Westerhouse, both of whom were born and reared in Germany. The father was born on the 13th of April, 1828, and departed this life on the 29th of October, 1891.



The date of the mother's birth was December 3, 1828, and she was summoned to the life eternal on the 3rd of April, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Westerhouse emigrated to America about 1849. They were married in Adams township and established their home on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres there. They reclaimed their land to cultivation and Mr. Westerhouse became a very successful farmer. To this union were born seven children, concerning whom the following brief data is here recorded: Samuel S., born April 10, 1850, maintains his home in Adams township; Lewis S. is the immediate subject of this review; Frank B., born January 16, 1855, passed to eternal rest on the 23rd of March, 1886; John H. born March 18, 1858, resides in Adams township close to the old homestead; Henry A., born April 7, 1861, is deceased, his death having occurred on the 22d of February, 1863; William N., born February 18, 1864, lives on the old homestead; and Emma, born August 14, 1869, maintains her home with Lewis S.

Lewis S. Westerhouse was afforded the advantages of a good common school education in his youth, having attended the public schools of his native township and he was associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until his marriage, in 1881. Thereafter he was engaged in the carpenter's trade for a period of about twelve years, having erected many of the fine farm residences and barns in this county. In 1885 he purchased and settled upon the old homestead on which his wife was born and reared and he has since been actively engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has one hundred and forty-three acres of most arable land and his buildings and improvements are of the most modern order. In politics Mr. Westerhouse is a Republican and he takes an active interest in local politics. He has held the office of township trustee for three terms of three years each. His father was likewise a stanch Republican and he also held the office of township trustee for a number of years. The father was keenly interested in religious and educational matters, having been officially and financially connected with the Evangelical church and having served for many years as a member of the school board. Mr. Westerhouse is a devout member of the Evangelical church, in the various departments of whose work he has been an active factor. Fraternally he is affiliated with the different social organizations of representative character and he is held in high regard by his fellow citizens.

On the 24th of March, 1881, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Westerhouse to Miss Eliza Miller, who was born on the 8th of September, 1860, a daughter of Philip and Catherine (Telgamyre) Miller, natives of Germany, whence they came to the United States about 1854. They located in Scipio township and there reared a family. They were members of the Evangelical church and were essentially progressive and liberal in their civic attitude. No children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Westerhouse and she was summoned to her reward on the 2nd of March, 1889. Since her death Mr. Westerhouse's sister, Emma, has lived with him and kept house for him. Samuel S. is the only one of the Westerhouse brothers who has reared a family. He married Miss Emma

Shadler and they have seven children, namely: Nora, born September 3, 1872, is the widow of Charles Riffel and she has one child, Clarence; Anna, born on the 27th of May, 1874, is the wife of William Myers and they reside in Bloomville and have one daughter, Mildred; Lillie, born June 16, 1876, married Jesse L. Bowerman, of Adams township, and they have four children, Lawrence, Bernard, Lela and Donald; Olive C., born May 5, 1878, wedded Edward Shontz of Adams township and they became the parents of five children, three of whom are living, Luella, Mabel and Charles; William E., born April 21, 1881, died in December, 1900; Frank, born June 10, 1885, resides at home; and Mabel, born January 30, 1888, married Charles Cook, of Adams township. All the above children were reared in the faith of the Evangelical church and received their education in the township schools. Nora attended the Greenspring Academy and was a popular and successful teacher in Adams and Pleasant townships prior to her marriage.

Mr. Westerhouse has lived a life of usefulness such as few men know. God-fearing, law-abiding, progressive, his life is as truly that of a Christian gentleman as any man's can well be. With unwavering fidelity he has done the right as he has interpreted it. He is a modest, unassuming man, genial and inspiring, and his charity knows only the bounds of his opportunities.

HENRY C. TELFORD, M. D.—Other men's services to the people and state can be measured by definite deeds, by dangers averted, by legislation secured, by institutions built, by commerce promoted. The work of a doctor is entirely estranged from these lines of enterprise yet without his capable, health-giving assistance all other accomplishment would count for naught. Man's greatest prize on earth is physical health and vigor. Nothing deteriorates mental activity so quickly as prolonged sickness, hence the broad field for human helpfulness afforded in the medical profession. The successful doctor requires something more than mere technical training—he must be a man of broad human sympathy and genial kindliness, capable of inspiring hope and faith in the heart of his patient. Such a man is he whose name initiates this article. Dr. Telford was born in Livingston county, Illinois, on the 24th of February, 1872, and is a son of James and Jennie (Scott) Telford, the former of whom was born in England and the latter in Scotland. James Telford emigrated to the United States about the year 1851 and he established his home in LaSalle county and then in Livingston county, Illinois, where he became a prosperous and progressive farmer. He is still living, at the age of eighty years, at Emington, Illinois, and the mother is also living, aged seventy-two years. Mr. and Mrs. Telford became the parents of nine children, eight of whom are now living, the subject of this review being the seventh in order of birth.

Dr. Telford was reared to maturity on the home farm and he was afforded the advantages of the common schools of his native county. In due time he chose for himself the profession of medicine and at the age of twenty-nine he took the scientific course in the Northern Indiana University at Valparaiso, later entering the Uni-

versity of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, in the medical department of which he was graduated as a member of the class of 1905, duly receiving his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. Immediately after his graduation he came to Attica, Seneca county, Ohio, where he took charge of the patients of Dr. Titus. He remained here four months, at the expiration of which he returned to Michigan, where he became associated in practice with Dr. W. B. Hanna at Mass City, Michigan, one of the best known representatives of the homeopathic school of medicine in that state. On the 19th of April, 1906, however, he again took up his home in Attica, where his success in his chosen profession has been on a parity with his well directed efforts and where he now controls a large and lucrative patronage, enjoying to the full the confidence and esteem of his ever increasing practice.

Though never a seeker of the emoluments or honors of public office, Dr. Telford accords a stanch allegiance to the cause of the Republican party and he has ever given his aid in support of all measures and enterprises projected for the furtherance of the general welfare of the community. He is a man of philanthropic and charitable tendencies and holds secure vantage ground in popular confidence and esteem. Fraternally he is a member of Attica Lodge No. 367, Free and Accepted Masons; the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics; and the Modern Woodmen of America. In connection with his profession he holds membership in the Homeopathic Medical Society of Ohio and the American Institute of Homeopathy. Both he and his wife are members of the Disciples church.

On June 6, 1908, was solemnized the marriage of Dr. Telford to Miss Charity Hurren, of Ontario, Canada. Dr. and Mrs. Telford are the parents of one son, Elden H., who was born on the 25th of February, 1910. Dr. and Mrs. Telford are prominent and popular factors in connection with the best social activities of their home city and their modern and attractive residence is a recognized center of gracious and generous hospitality.

NEILE STINEBAUGH.—An essentially progressive and public spirited business man of the younger generation in Seneca county is Neile Stinebaugh, who is editor and owner of the *Republic Reporter* and who is a native son of the village which has represented his home throughout his entire life thus far, his birth having here occurred on the 2d of May, 1888. He is a son of William and Keturah (Ballinger) Stinebaugh, both of whom were born in Ohio, the former August 4, 1848, and the latter in the year 1858. The paternal grandparents of the subject of this review, John and Elizabeth (Measle) Stinebaugh, were natives of Maryland, whence they emigrated to Ohio in an early day, locating first in Wood county and later removing to Scipio township, Seneca county. Here the grandfather engaged in agricultural pursuits. The maternal grandfather of him whose name initiates this article was one of the first merchants in Republic and was conceded wealthy at the time of his death, leaving an extensive landed estate and other valuable property. William Stinebaugh resided on the old



homestead farm until his marriage, in 1878, and thereafter he was with the B. & O. Railroad Company until his death, which occurred March 19, 1900, at the age of sixty-two years. His cherished and devoted wife survives him and now maintains her home with her son Neile, in the village of Republic. William and Keturah Stinebaugh became the parents of two children, Edward, who was born on the 22d of October, 1880; and Neile, the subject of this review. Edward attended the public schools of Republic and was graduated in the village high school as a member of the class of 1905. He is now connected with the B. & O. railroad, with headquarters at Tiffin, and he served two years as mayor of Republic. In 1908 he was united in marriage to Miss Myrtle Hakes.

Neile Stinebaugh received his educational discipline in the public schools of Republic, being graduated in the high school in the class of 1907. That he put his scholastic attainments to good use is evident when it is stated that he was a successful and popular teacher in Seneca county for a period of two years. On the 12th of May, 1909, he launched the *Republic Reporter* and he is making a distinct success in his journalistic endeavors. The paper now has a circulation of five hundred and it is making rapid headway under the able management of Mr. Stinebaugh. In politics he accords a stanch allegiance to the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor and in 1909 he was elected corporation clerk of the village of Republic, he being the youngest man in the state to be incumbent of this office. He is a young man of quick perception and fine executive ability and is widely recognized as a citizen who is alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with all measures tending to advance the general welfare of the community. In a fraternal way he is affiliated with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

JOHN WILLIAM BILLIARD is one of the prosperous agriculturists of Reed township, owning a fine eighty-acre farm, some high grade cattle, and one of the largest sugar forests and camps in this part of the country. Unlike so many of the citizens of Seneca county, he is not a native son, but was born in Leeds, England, February 1, 1876. Both his father and his mother, whose names were Thomas and Elizabeth (Otter) Billiard, were natives of the "right little, tight little isle." The former's birthplace was Nottinghamshire and his eyes first opened to the light of day September 5, 1849. After attaining his majority Thomas Billiard began his experience as a wage-earner in the capacity of a teamster. In 1882, when John William was about six years of age, his parents decided to leave England and make their future residence in the newer country with its greater opportunity for the working man and his children. Mr. and Mrs. Billiard and their family landed at Baltimore, Maryland, on June 19, 1882, and they subsequently found their way to Seneca county, where the father worked by the month for wages to support his family and to repay the one hundred dollars which he had borrowed from his uncle to pay their passage to the United States. Those were meager times,

but they finally got upon their feet, figuratively speaking, and had a comfortable home. There were in the family three other children besides him whose name heads this review. Arthur resides at Flat Rock; George is deceased; and Lillie married James Nagle and makes her home in Attica.

On April 1, 1889, Mr. Billiard and his brothers and sister had the misfortune to be deprived of their mother by death, and he being the eldest child, the care of the younger children and the housework fell upon his young shoulders. He manfully took up his duties, distasteful though they may have been, and cooked, washed, ironed, and did everything pertaining to the house. Notwithstanding, he managed to attend the district schools until he was twenty-one years of age, going in the winter months. During this time the family were residing in Reed township. Mr. Billiard finally left the home in which he had been so useful and hired to M. Gray, a farmer, for one hundred and fifty dollars a year. By working Sundays and by extreme economy he managed to save out of this one hundred and twenty dollars a year and in this way he made his start in life. He succeeded by hard work and grit and now owns an excellent farm of eighty acres, well improved and adjoining the oldest settled farm in the township. His land is located in Reed township. As before mentioned he has a large sugar forest and camp on his estate and it is equipped with one of the most modern syrup evaporators and canners made. He has forty head of Poland China hogs and one very fine male weighing five hundred pounds. One of Mr. Billiard's interesting experiences was a hunting trip which he took into Wisconsin and which lasted for eighteen months, during which he bagged eight deer and much smaller game.

Mr. Billiard established a home of his own when on the 16th of June, 1909, he married Mrs. Effie Kautz, a native of Huron county, her maiden name having been Eastman. Mr. Billiard is a loyal advocate of the policies and principles of the Republican party. His father was a Republican and also a member of the Ancient Order of Shepherds.

RUSSELL M. KNEPPER.—Seneca county has contributed its generous quota to the high prestige of the bench and bar of Ohio, and numbered among the representative members of the legal profession in the county at the present time is he whose name initiates this paragraph. He is the junior member of the law firm of Wagner & Knepper, of Tiffin, and is known as an able and versatile trial lawyer and well fortified counselor. He has won success and precedence through his own efforts, and his course has been so directed as to retain to him the inviolable confidence and esteem of the people of his native county.

Mr. Knepper was born on the old family homestead located on Wolf creek in Hopewell township, this county, on the 11th day of February, 1878, and is a son of Benjamin and Mary (Reeme) Knepper, the former of whom was a native of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania. The father died January 31, 1905, and the mother is still living.

The active career of the father was one of close identification with the great basic industry of agriculture. As a boy Russell M. Knepper began to lend his aid in the work of the home farm, and in the meanwhile he availed himself of the advantages afforded in the district school, where he had as an instructor William O. Doran, who has been a successful and prominent worker in the local educational field for fully forty years. That Mr. Knepper made good use of the opportunities offered under such preceptorship is evident when it is noted that at the age of seventeen years he proved himself eligible for pedagogic honors. He began teaching in the district schools of his home county and continued in this line of work, at intervals, for a period of five years. His appreciation and ambition prompted him to seek higher educational advantages, and his aim then, as in later years, was one of definite action. Still dependent upon his own resources for further work along educational lines, he entered the Ohio Northern University, at Ada, where he completed the prescribed scientific course and was graduated in the spring of 1901, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Soon after his graduation Mr. Knepper located in the city of Tiffin, where he began the study of law under the preceptorship of Judge George M. Hoke and where he continued his technical reading until 1904, when he was matriculated in the law department of his alma mater, the Ohio Northern University, in which by close application he was enabled to complete the prescribed course and gain his degree of Bachelor of Laws in June, 1905. He simultaneously passed the examination entitling him to admission to the bar of the state. He initiated the practice of his profession in Tiffin, and here, in June, 1906, he formed a partnership with Judge W. Scott Wagner, under the firm name of Wagner & Knepper. A large and substantial law business has been conducted to the present time by this firm. The clientele is of representative order, and the junior member has effectively proved his mettle in connection with many important litigations, as well as in the counsel room, where he has shown a comprehensive and accurate knowledge of law and procedure. He is a close student, painstaking, honest and capable in the preparation of his causes, and his close observance of the unwritten code of ethics has gained and retained to him the high regard of his professional confreres. His personality, genial, democratic and unaffected, has likewise contributed to his success in his exacting profession, of whose dignity he has the deepest appreciation. Mr. Knepper has not only shown fine dialectic and forensic powers but has also gained reputation as an effective orator, in which connection his services have been in frequent requisition at various social and public assemblies, including those of a political nature. He is well fortified in his opinions as to matters of public polity and is a stalwart advocate of the principles and policies of the Democratic party. Though he has never held public office, Mr. Knepper takes a loyal interest in local affairs, and in his political party he is one of the leaders in his native county.

On the 12th day of December, 1906, he was united in marriage to Mamie A. Corn, daughter of William D. and Birdie (Gates)



Corn, of Ironton, Ohio. William D. Corn, the father of Mrs. Knepper and a very successful lawyer, died at Cincinnati February 16, 1907, and the mother, Mrs. Birdie Corn, resides at the home of their only child and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Knepper.

Mr. Knepper is a contributor to the Methodist Protestant church of Tiffin, where Mrs. Knepper is a member, and he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Junior Order United American Mechanics fraternal orders. The U. R. K. P. recently conferred honors upon Mr. Knepper which entitles him to the rank of captain and he is commissioned as such.

Mr. and Mrs. Knepper are the parents of one child, William Edward, who was born October 25, 1909.

WILLIAM F. ORWIG.—Now living virtually retired from active business, Mr. Orwig is numbered among the well known and highly esteemed citizens of his native county and maintains his home in the village of Flat Rock. He is a member of a family that was founded in Seneca county in the middle pioneer epoch, and the name has ever stood exponent of sterling integrity of purpose and loyal citizenship.

William F. Orwig was born at Flat Rock, this county, on the 15th of February, 1852, and in the county of his nativity he has found ample scope for effective and productive effort as one of the world's great army of workers, having gained a due measure of success through his well directed endeavors. He is a son of James and Sarah (Ream) Orwig, both of whom were born in Union county, Pennsylvania, of staunch German lineage. James Orwig came from the old Keystone state to Seneca county, Ohio, in company with Henry Kutz, and the trip was made by means of team and wagon. He was a tailor by trade and after locating at Flat Rock he here engaged in the work of his trade, in connection with which he eventually developed a successful business as a dealer in men's furnishing goods. He was among those sterling patriots who tendered their services in defense of the Union when its integrity was menaced by armed rebellion. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company A, One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which command he proceeded to the front and met his full quota of arduous and perilous experience as a valiant and faithful soldier. He entered the service at Monroeville and thereafter, while proceeding with his regiment on a forced march of more than one hundred miles, he experienced considerable trouble with his heart, the disorder becoming so acute that he was finally sent to the rear. He became incapacitated for active field service and on this account was finally granted an honorable discharge. In later years he received a pension from the government, in recognition of his services and the disabilities entailed thereby. After the close of his military career Mr. Orwig returned to Flat Rock and resumed the work of his trade. Later he established himself in the meat-market business in this village, and with this line of enterprise he continued to be identified for a period of about eighteen years. Failing health then necessitated his withdrawal



JOHN HEATER



HAZEL D. ORWIG





from active business and he lived retired in Flat Rock thereafter until his death, which occurred in March, 1882. He ever commanded uniform confidence and esteem in the community that so long represented his home, and as a citizen he was loyal and public spirited. He was a Republican in politics and was affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic.

The marriage of James Orwig to Miss Sarah Ream, of Flat Rock, was solemnized about the year 1850, and his wife was summoned to eternal rest in 1902. She was born in July, 1834, and was a daughter of Joseph and Catherine Ream, who were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they came to Seneca county about the year 1832, making the trip with an ox cart. Mr. Ream secured a tract of wild land, comprising about one hundred and eighty acres, in Thompson township, and here he reclaimed a productive farm, on which the Seneca county orphans' home is now located. This worthy pioneer lived up to the full tension of the early days of arduous toil and manifold privations, and it is related that in the early days he cleared land for others in order to secure sufficient money to pay his taxes. Mr. and Mrs. Ream continued to reside on their old homestead until their death. James and Sarah (Ream) Orwig became the parents of three children, of whom William F., of this sketch, is the eldest; Oliver A., who was born in 1854, is a representative agriculturist of Thompson township; and Nellie E., born in 1860, is the wife of Frank Kimmel, of Bellevue.

William F. Orwig is indebted to the public schools of Flat Rock for his early educational discipline and he continued to reside at the parental home until the time of his marriage. Shortly after this important event in his career he established an individual home at Flat Rock and turned his attention to the teaming business, with which line of enterprise he continued to be successfully identified during the greater part of his active business career. He is liberal and public spirited as a citizen and gives his support to all measures tending to advance the general welfare of his home village and county. He is a staunch supporter of the cause of the Republican party.

In the year 1876 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Orwig to Miss Amanda M. Weiker, who was born in Thompson township, this county, on the 14th of April, 1856, and who is a daughter of Elias and Maria (Heater) Weiker, whose marriage was celebrated on the 4th of November, 1838, and the latter of whom died January 22, 1859. Elias Weiker was a native of Union county, Pennsylvania, born on the 15th of August, 1818, and was a son of George and Susannah (Deahl) Weiker, whom he accompanied on their removal to Thompson township, Seneca county, Ohio, in 1832. John and Sarah Heater, the maternal grandparents of Mrs. Orwig, came from Pennsylvania to Seneca county about the same time and both the Weiker and Heater families secured tracts of government land in Thompson township, where they reclaimed good farms. The mother of Mrs. Orwig was born in the year 1818 and her death occurred in Seneca county.

Elias Weiker became one of the prominent and influential  
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citizens of Seneca county, whence he eventually removed to Bellevue, Ohio, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred in 1904. The following lines commemorating his death appeared in a local publication: "One by one the pioneer citizens are passing away. Elias Weiker, one of the oldest residents of Bellevue, died at his home on North street this morning at two o'clock, aged eighty-five years, six months and twenty days.

"Elias Weiker, son of George and Susan Weiker, was born in Union county, Pennsylvania, August 15, 1818. When a young man in 1832 he came with his parents to Thompson township, Seneca county, Ohio, locating upon a farm near Flat Rock. Here he grew to manhood. The family was one of the first to locate in what was then an unbroken wilderness and here amid the scenes of that heroic age, in nature's school, the subject learned the lesson of industry and thrift that were his chief characteristics in later life.

"Mr. Weiker was twice married. He was married to Miss Maria Heater, November 4, 1838. Eight children were born to this union, three of whom died in infancy and five survive. They are Isaac Weiker, who lives on the old homestead south of town in Thompson township; Mrs. John Wertz and Mrs. Mary Scothorn, of Nashville, Barry county, Michigan; Mrs. Sarah Hiskey, of Bellevue and Mrs. Frank Orwig, of Flat Rock. Mrs. Weiker died January 22, 1859.

"Mr Weiker was married to Miss Maria Deahl in 1870 and three children were born to this union, one Mrs. W. J. Klein, of Hamilton, Ohio, who with the widow survives.

"Mr. Weiker was the last of his family, one brother, Jonas Weiker, having died January 21, 1904. Mr. Weiker was a successful farmer and by industry and frugality amassed a handsome fortune and was the owner of large land interests in Nebraska, Kansas, Seneca county and also owned a number of houses and lots in Bellevue. Mr. Weiker retired from active farming about thirty years ago, when he moved to Bellevue. Since that time he devoted himself to looking after his property. Mr. Weiker was a highly esteemed pioneer citizen, whose more than four score years have been associated with the early history of Bellevue. He was permitted to live to see the straggling county hamlet develop into a prosperous city. He enjoyed a reasonable degree of health until about a week ago, when he took to his bed. He suffered from no specific disease but 'Like a clock, worn out with eating time, at last the weary wheels of life stood still.' "

John Heater, maternal grandfather of Mrs. Orwig, became an extensive landholder in Seneca county and he gave to each of his children a farm of eighty acres, together with household goods and other appurtenances necessary for establishing independent homes. Later his own house and barn were destroyed by fire, kindled by malicious persons whose identity was never discovered, and under these conditions the children had the privilege of showing their filial solicitude, as they provided for the erection of new buildings for the parents as well as for the proper furnishing of the house. The children

who had received each a tract of eighty acres of land were eleven in number, and the generous provision made by the honored father was shown proper appreciation when the children in turn found it possible to reciprocate as noted above. Mr. Heater died at the age of eighty-seven years. He was a soldier in the war of 1812 and for services rendered he received a pension until his death. Both the Weikers and Heaters were respectable and honorable pioneers. George Weiker died at the age of eighty-four.

Mrs. Orwig was afforded the advantages of the public schools of Seneca county and those of Decatur, Indiana, where she graduated in the high school as a member of the class of 1875. Mrs. Orwig owns twenty acres of land near the village of Flat Rock, and she is the owner of real estate in Cleveland, as well as a house and lot at Bellevue. The latter property is the old homestead of her father. Mr. and Mrs. Orwig became the parents of three children, concerning whom the following brief record is entered: Della M., who was born on the 20th of June, 1877, is the wife of Weston Leininger, of Bellevue, and they have seven children, Donald C., Harry A., Mildred E., Frank, Hazel Dell, Isabel and John; Myrtle Bell, who was born on the 10th of June, 1882, is the wife of John Carr, of Chicago, Ohio, and they have two children, Thelma F. and Thomas; Hazel Dey, the youngest of the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Orwig, was born on the 12th of August, 1886, and still remains at the parental home. She was graduated in the Flat Rock high school as a member of the class of 1902 and is a popular factor in the religious and social activities of the community, being secretary of the Sunday school of the Evangelical church and also secretary of the Young People's Association of the church, besides which both she and her mother hold membership in the local hive of Ladies of the Modern Maccabees.

WILLIAM F. MARTIN is one of Hopewell township's prominent citizens, owning and operating one hundred and sixty-seven acres of land, engaging extensively in stock raising in addition to general farming and being very active in public life. He is bound with especial nearness to this part of Ohio, having been born within the pleasant boundaries of the county, April 20, 1863, his parents being Henry W. and Caroline (Smoyer) Martin. The mother was a native of Pennsylvania, but the father was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, the year of his nativity having been 1839, and his residence in that township lasted until 1874 in which year he removed to Hopewell township. Following his schooling in the public institutions of learning, he attended Heidelberg University at Tiffin and later engaged in school teaching. He was the father of six children, three of whom were boys and three girls and five of whom were living in 1910, Jacob W. being the one deceased. William F. is the eldest in order of birth; Ora C. Newhouse of Fostoria is the widow of Perry Newhouse; Nora Cromer is the wife of C. B. Cromer of Hopewell township; Catherine Martin resides with her mother in Hopewell township; J. M. Martin is in Chula, Virginia, engaged as superintendent on a large plantation for a Mr. Wilson of Illinois.



William F. Martin passed the peculiarly wholesome boyhood of the boy who is raised upon the farm, both Liberty and Hopewell townships having been the scenes of his earlier years. After securing his educational discipline in the district schools he took charge of the farm and has proved very efficient in his management of the same. He was married September 28, 1882, to Miss Ida B. King, daughter of William H. King of Hopewell township. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Martin has been blessed by the birth of six children. Ross W., the eldest, born July 11, 1883, is engaged in farming with his father, having followed in the paternal footsteps in the matter of a life work; Grover A., born July 4, 1888, is taking a business course in Heidelberg College; Earl L., engaged in teaching school in Hopewell and Liberty townships, was born September 27, 1890; Maurice K., born July 19, 1896, and Marguerite C., born April 27, 1901, constitute an attractive young household. Ralph, born July 27, 1892, died September 7, 1903.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin are members of the Church of God, the former being one of the elders in church organization. He favors the policies and principles advanced by the Democratic party and for a period of eight years has served as township clerk, his assumption of the office being in the year 1904. His valuable farming property is located in section 23, and in addition to his general farming and stock-raising he has engaged with much success in the dairy business.

AUSTIN C. LITTLER.—A prominent citizen of Seneca county is the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 12, Liberty township, and is one of the best judges of horses in that part of the state. Though he is himself a practical farmer, he rents his land and is living a retired life, simply looking after his private affairs. He is well known as a Democrat but has little taste or inclination for active politics. Yet he is interested in all that pertains to the advancement and prosperity of Liberty township and public spirited enough to do all within his power and means to aid them.

Mr. Littler is a native of Seneca county, born in Pleasant township, October 17, 1851, a son of Nathan and Mary (Engler) Littler. The father was born in Virginia and the mother in Maryland. Their parents brought them to Ohio, both families locating in Seneca county, where the elders lived out their days. Austin C. Littler was reared in Liberty township, where his parents removed from Pleasant township, and was educated in public schools near his home. He was early initiated in a most practical way into the mysteries of farming. In 1880 he married Miss Margaret Davidson, daughter of William and Maria Davidson, born in Seneca county in 1855. Their daughter Blanche was graduated in music at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, and is the wife of Wilbur Hull of Liberty township.

WESLEY W. MILLER, an estimable citizen and a man well known in this part of the state, has been postmaster at Bascom for a period of twelve years in his present services, having also served a

period of over six years from 1879 to 1886. For many years a farmer in Loudon and Adams townships, upon removing to Bascom in the year 1878, he took up the grocery business and conducts this in addition to fulfilling the duties of his office. Mr. Miller is a veteran of the Civil war and tracing his descent as far as his great-great-grandfather, we find that gentleman to have been a native of Switzerland. Mr. Miller is a native son of the county, his birth having occurred in Adams township November 8, 1839, his parents being Simon and Hannah (Wax) Miller. Simon Miller was the son of Daniel Miller who was the son of Daniel Miller, Sr., who is believed to have been born in the city of Philadelphia. Of Swiss parentage, Daniel Miller, Senior, went to Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, at an early day, and it was he who laid out the town of Millersburg, which received his name and which was the scene of his death. His son, Mr. Miller's grandfather, migrated to Seneca county, Ohio, in pioneer days, and with his three sons and one daughter settled in Scipio township, here living out the remainder of his days. The father's birthplace was in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, but it was in Seneca county that he grew to manhood, married, and reared his family, which like that of his father, consisted of three sons and a daughter. Of these four, whose names were Wesley W., Daniel, Simon and Martha, all are deceased with the exception of him whose name initiates this sketch. Daniel, as well as Wesley W., were soldiers at the time of the Civil war. The subject enlisted in 1864 as a member of Company I of the One Hundred and Sixty-Fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, the colonel being Colonel J. C. Lee and his was one hundred days service. For his service to his country he now receives a pension.

Mr. Miller was reared upon his father's homestead in Adams township, secured his education before a desk in the district school, received a practical training in that vocation to which his father's energies were devoted, and remained beneath the home roof until his twenty-second year when he was married to Sophia Jamison of Kosciusko county, Indiana. She was a native of the Hoosier state and the daughter of William and Susan (Rough) Jamison. They took up their residence upon land in Loudon township and it was there that the death of the wife occurred, one son being left, Simon J., born July, 1869, and a present resident of Port Clinton, Ohio.

In April, 1870, Mr. Miller again married, this union being with Mary L. Creeger, born in Seneca county, Ohio. She passed away in Bascom August 8, 1901. There are two daughters, the elder, Martha, being the wife of S. J. Mathew of Port Clinton, and the younger, Bertha, being married to A. R. Windsor, who is located near Port Clinton. Mr. Miller and his family belong to the United Brethren church and he maintains relations of war days by his membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics Mr. Miller favors by his support and sympathy the men and measures advanced by what its admirers term "The Grand Old Party." Besides his eighteen years service as postmaster, he has also served for three years as township trustee.

DR. M. E. WILSON was born April 14, 1852, at Dayton, Montgomery county, Ohio. At an early age he became a member of the household of Lewis Friedley, for whom he worked as a farmer boy, attending district schools as opportunity was afforded him. After a time he took his future in his own hands and labored diligently at whatever he could find to do. He was early impressed with the idea that in order fitly to enter upon the battle of life he should have education beyond that which he had been able to obtain in public schools. Therefore he entered the Ada College at Ada, Hardin county, Ohio, where he was a student through several successive terms, paying his way by means of such work as he was able to find. He taught three terms of school in Huron county, Ohio, then took up the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. H. T. Blain. Later he became a student at the Toledo Medical College, where he took the course of study prescribed to fit him for the practice of medicine and was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1887. There too he paid his way with his own earnings from month to month. To the practice of his chosen profession he has devoted the same energy, perseverance and good judgment that characterized him in his preparatory period. Soon after his graduation, he located at Bettsville, where from the beginning he had the confidence and esteem of his townspeople where his practice has grown substantially from year to year down to the present time. Since he came several other physicians of ability have tried without success to establish themselves in the town. His practice which embraces all classes at Bettsville extends in all directions into an extensive area of country. His fellow citizens point to him not only as a man of remarkable success in a professional way but as a self-made man whose achievements are worthy of the emulation of younger men.

In 1889 Dr. Wilson married Miss Cora Patterson of Reed township, and they live in their own comfortable home on Main street. As a Democrat Dr. Wilson wields an influence for good that is recognized by thinking people in his vicinity regardless of their political affiliation. Though eighty-five or ninety per cent of the vote of his township is Republican he has been five times elected its treasurer, which office he is filling at this time. He is a stockholder and a director in the Bettsville Banking Company of which corporation he is vice-president. He is identified with Greenspring Lodge, No. 427 Free and Accepted Masons, with Fremont Chapter, No. 64, Royal Arch Masons, and of Fremont Commandery No. 56, Knights Templar. As a physician he is well known through his part of the state, holding membership as he does in the County, State and American Medical societies.

FRANK S. WALTER is well known in the locality and is former assessor and present land appraiser of Hopewell township. He finds particular cause for loyalty to Seneca county from the fact that he is a native son, his birth having occurred in Liberty township January 28, 1874. He is a son of Michael W. and Mary (Brendle) Walter, both of whom are deceased at the present time. The father was born April 12, 1845, in Seneca county, Ohio, and



the mother's birth was on the 23d of September, 1847, she being a native of Germany and about seven years old when she came to Seneca county. The demise of the former occurred October 1, 1901, and that of the latter January 20, 1902. Mr. Walter is the second in order of birth of a family of seven children, the other members living being: Jessie W., Charles L., Harvey O. and James E. The last two are located at Medford, Oregon and Charles L. is living in Bascom, Seneca county.

Mr. Walter was but an infant when his parents removed from Liberty to Hopewell township, and it was in the district schools of the latter that he acquired his education. By means of assisting in the duties to be encountered upon every farm, he became the possessor of much agricultural information and is now one of the progressive farmers of the locality. His farm is the old homestead of his father and grandfather, and comprises some one hundred and twenty acres of fertile and highly cultivated land. He enjoys the confidence of the community, being especially well liked where he is best known and his three years' service as assessor and his present incumbency of the office of land appraiser have been of marked efficiency. He gives his heart and hand to the cause of the Democratic party and is public spirited and well informed upon public issues, giving his support to all those measures likely to result in the attainment of the greatest good to the greatest number. He is a member of the German Reform church of Bascom and one of its trustees.

Mr. Walter has never joined the ranks of the Benedicts and he and his brother Jessie W. are living on the farm. He finds an additional source of revenue in the ownership of an excellent threshing machine, which he has followed for the last thirteen years.

ARCHIE F. SOMERS.—A representative business man of Republic, Seneca county, Ohio, and one who has contributed materially to the progress and development of this section of the state, is Archie F. Somers, who was born on the 25th of September, 1870, and who is a son of Frank D. and Sarah A. (Myers) Somers, both of whom were born and reared in Ohio. Archie F. Somers is a native son of the village of Republic and he is descended from staunch old German stock, his paternal grandfather, Charles Somers, having emigrated to America from Germany in the year 1830. He and his wife first located at Fremont, Ohio, and later they established their home in Seneca county, where they passed the residue of their lives. Frank D. Somers was but eight years of age at the time of his mother's death and his father was summoned to the life eternal before his birth. After the death of his mother he resided with his brother and sister for some time and his preliminary education was such as could be obtained in the district schools. At fourteen years of age he hired out as a farm hand and he continued to be thus employed until he had attained to his legal majority, when he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Myers. Thereafter he engaged in farming on his own account and he became one of the most successful and substantial farmers in this county. Of his brothers and sisters, Charles, Elizabeth and Christena were born

in Germany; John was born on the passage over to America; and Henry and Billy were born in Ohio. To Frank D. and Sarah A. Somers were born three children, namely: Harry, of Scipio township; Fred, of Fostoria; and Archie F., the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Somers was summoned to eternal rest on the 13th of August, 1899, and Mr. Somers is now living on his finely improved farm of eighty acres in Scipio township.

Archie F. Somers, the immediate subject of this review, availed himself of the advantages afforded in the common schools of his native county and of those of the village of Republic. He continued to be associated with his father in the work and management of the home farm until his marriage, at twenty-one years of age. He then initiated his independent operations as a farmer and continued to be so occupied for a period of three years, at the expiration of which he entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company. Five years later he again became identified with agricultural pursuits and in 1906 he established his home in the village of Republic, where he is now extensively engaged in the buying and shipping of hay, in which connection he handles about three thousand tons per annum, shipping the same to all points of the compass. He is a staunch Republican in his political proclivities and is at the present time giving most efficient service as village councilman. He has ever given freely of his aid and influence in support of all measures and enterprises projected for the general welfare of the community and is recognized as an essentially progressive and public spirited citizen. He holds a high place in the confidence and esteem of his fellowmen and in his business relations he has gained a reputation for fair and honorable methods and unquestioned integrity. In a fraternal way he is a valued and appreciative member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed through all the official chairs, being at the present time (1910) noble grand of the local lodge. He and his wife hold membership in the Daughters of Rebekah and the latter is a devout member of the German Lutheran church, in the various departments of whose work she has been most active.

On the 18th of October, 1891, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Somers to Miss Liza Jane Wiker, who was born in this county on the 24th of November, 1872, and who is a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Sharger) Wiker, both of whom were born and reared in Germany, whence they came to America in an early day, settling on a farm in Adams township, Seneca county. Mr. and Mrs. Wiker became the parents of ten children: William, Lizzie, Ellen, Sallie, Delia, Allie, George, Nora, Mattie and Liza Jane. Of this number Delia, Nora and Liza Jane are still living. Mrs. Wiker and three of the children passed away within two weeks of one another, when Mrs. Somers was a child of twelve years of age. Mr. Wiker served as a gallant soldier in the Union army during the Civil war and he is now living in Reed township, having attained to the venerable age of sixty-nine years. Mr. and Mrs. Somers have four children: Ethel, who was born on the 25th of August, 1892, is now in her last year in the preparatory course of the normal school at Republic; Earl, who was born on the

9th of November, 1894; Gretta, born July 20, 1897; and Franklin, born December 6, 1904, all of whom are attending the public schools in Republic.

GEORGE R. CRAMER.—A representative citizen of Scipio township, Seneca county, and one who has achieved eminent success as an agriculturist is George R. Cramer, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 28th of May, 1865, and who is a son of Edwin R. and Christina (Neikirk) Cramer, the former a native of Maryland and the latter a native of Ohio. Edwin R. Cramer was born on the 7th of October, 1835, and he was but five years of age at the time of his parents' removal from Maryland to Ohio. He is a son of Christian and Catherine (Creighes) Cramer, who located in Clinton township, this county, on a farm, in 1840. Edwin R. Cramer resided with his parents until his marriage to Miss Christina Neikirk, a daughter of Daniel and Christina (Somers) Neikirk. Mr. Neikirk was born in Maryland and his wife claimed Baden Baden, Germany, as the place of her birth. Edwin and Christina Cramer became the parents of five children: George, the immediate subject of this review; Rosa Bell and Clara Dell, twins, born January 13, 1869, the former became the wife of Scott Growel, of Adams township; and the latter married James H. Breyman, of Tiffin; Chloe, born January 9, 1877, became the wife of William Myers, of Utah; and Ezra S., born June 11, 1880, was summoned to the life eternal on the 20th of May, 1888. Edwin R. Cramer was a most successful farmer during his lifetime and his death occurred on the 30th of May, 1908. His cherished and devoted wife now resides on the old homestead to which she came as a bride and she has attained to the venerable age of sixty-seven years. When the Cramer family first came to Ohio they were in rather straitened circumstances but through thrift and industry they gained noteworthy success and became highly respected citizens in Scipio township.

George R. Cramer was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm and he early began to assist his father in the work and management thereof. His education was such as was afforded in the public schools of the county and when sixteen years of age he hired out as a farm hand. Four years later he journeyed to the west, locating in Nebraska, where he learned the blacksmith's trade. For twenty-three years he lived the strenuous life of the mining camps and in 1906 he returned to his native state of Ohio, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, the old homestead of Michael Neikirk, an uncle of his mother. He now has an estate of three hundred and twenty acres of most arable land and his splendidly improved farm is one of the finest in the county. He devotes his attention to diversified agriculture and his spacious residence and barns are of the most modern type. In politics Mr. Cramer is aligned as a stalwart supporter of the cause of the Democratic party and though he has never manifested aught of desire for public office of any description he gives freely of his aid and influence in support of all measures advanced for the general welfare of the community. In a fraternal way he is



affiliated with the Knights of the Tented Maccabees and he is also a member of the Western Federated Miners Union. He and his wife are devout members of the Catholic church, to whose charities he has contributed in generous measure. Mr. Cramer has in his possession some fine specimens of his work in steel, also in gold, silver, copper and lead ore, which he brought back with him from the west.

In Utah, in July, 1893, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Cramer to Miss Elizabeth E. Wheatly, a daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Karug) Wheatly, both of whom were born in Scotland, the former in county Waxford and the latter at Glasgow. After living for a time in England Mr. and Mrs. Wheatly emigrated to America, about 1879, at which time Mrs. Cramer was four years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Wheatly had seven children, namely: James, Mary C., Margaret M., Elizabeth, Bridget, Richard and William, all of whom are deceased except Mrs. Cramer and Bridget, who now maintains her home in California. Mr. and Mrs. Cramer became the parents of eight children, two of whom died when infants. Those living are, Bertha, born March 8, 1895; Edwin R., born October 7, 1897; Ezra R., born January 18, 1899; Junita, born October 25, 1902; George E., born October 1, 1906; and Irene M., born March 18, 1908.

ROLLIE J. HENSINGER.—A native son of Seneca county and a scion of an old pioneer family in this section, Rollie J. Hensinger was born in Adams township, Seneca county, Ohio, on the 27th of June, 1875. He is a son of Benjamin F. and Brigada (Fender) Hensinger, both of whom were likewise born in Seneca county. Benjamin F. Hensinger was a son of John and Catherine (Garman) Hensinger, the date of his nativity being September 5, 1846. John and Catherine Hensinger were natives of Lehi county, Pennsylvania, whence they emigrated to Ohio about 1840. The household goods was transported by ox teams and wagons and the older members of the family made the trip on foot. John entered one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Adams township and set about reclaiming a farm from the virgin wilderness. He erected a log cabin and reared a family of ten children, whose names are here recorded: Harris, Mary, Flora, Owen, John, Conrad, Risaldo, Moses, Benjamin F. and Catherine. Benjamin F. resided with his parents until his marriage, March 9, 1869, to Miss Brigada Fender. They became the parents of six children, Arvilla, Emma, Frank, Rollie J., Herbert and Lucy M. After the death of his first wife, in 1885, he married Maria Kane, who bore him one son, Emery Earl. She was summoned to the life eternal on the 23rd of July, 1910. He was engaged in farming during the major portion of his active business career and was an essentially loyal and public spirited citizen who contributed in generous measure to all movements projected for the general well-fare of the community.

Rollie J. Hensinger received his early educational discipline in the district schools of his native township and when twenty-two years of age he went to Ada, Ohio, where he spent two terms in a

business course. After his marriage he turned his attention to diversified agriculture. In politics he is a stalwart Republican and he has held various offices of public trust. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. He is a man of broad general information and is ever on the alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with all measures and enterprises tending to advance the welfare of the community.

On the 30th of October, 1900, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Hensinger to Miss Nettie Carson, who was born and reared in Seneca county and who is a daughter of William and Ann (Lawrence) Carson, natives of Pennsylvania. William Carson was one of seven children, the others being: Jane, Nancy, John, Jake, Hugh and Mary. For a time Mrs. Carson's parents resided in New Jersey and in 1845 they removed to Ohio and located at Melmore, this county. The family was represented in the Civil war and all the boys were mechanics by vocation. Mrs. Hensinger was the fifth in order of birth in a family of nine children, the names of the others being: Orville, Carrie, Walter, Floyd, Nettie, Mary, Roy, Pearl and Ollie. Mr. and Mrs. Hensinger have one son, Merlin E., who was born on the 12th of August, 1904. A son Vernon Gerald, was born to them on the 20th of May, 1902, but he passed from this life on October 12 of the same year.

WILLIAM HARMON HOMAN.—A man of honest worth, endowed with the habits of thrift and industry characteristic of his German ancestors, William Harmon Homan holds an assured position among the respected and valued residents of Tiffin. A son of the late George Homan, he was born, February 3, 1871, in Hancock county, Ohio, but has spent the greater part of his life in Tiffin.

George Homan was born, reared and married in Germany. Learning the trade of a printer, he followed it in the Fatherland until 1860, when he came with his wife and children to the United States, locating first in Buffalo, New York. After working in a printing office in that city for eight years, he moved to Findlay, Ohio, where he had charge of a boarding house for four years. Going to Fremont, Ohio, in 1872, he conducted the *Fremont Courier* five years, when he sold out. Coming from there to Tiffin, he established the first, and only German newspaper of Seneca county, which he managed from 1881 until 1893. He was quite active in public affairs, and in 1888 was elected sheriff of Seneca county, and served until his death about six months before the expiration of his term of service. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Florian, was born in Berlin, Germany, his native city, and is now living with her son, William H., who is the eighth child in order of birth of her family of nine children, a part of whom were born in Germany.

Brought up and educated in Tiffin, William H. Homan began learning the jewelry business when but fourteen years of age, and has made that his life occupation, being a skilful and artistic workman. During his younger days, however, Mr. Homan worked with his father to some extent as a newspaper man, and also served

as deputy sheriff under his father. He is a Democrat in politics, and a member of the German Catholic church. Mr. Homan married, April 9, 1907, Gertrude M. Smith.

CHARLES ASH.—For nearly four score years has the Ash family been identified with the history of Seneca county and few if any names have been more closely and prominently concerned with the industrial and civic development and advancement of this favored section of the state. He whose name initiates this review is the largest land holder in the county and from his youth to the present time he has been actively concerned with the great basic industries of agriculture and stock growing, through the medium of which he has achieved large and worthy success, thus adding to the prestige gained along the same lines by his honored father, William Ash, who, at a venerable age, still maintains his residence in this county and who is one of its most honored pioneer citizens. Mr. Ash has ever commanded the unqualified confidence and esteem of the community, which has represented his home from the time of his nativity, has been called upon to serve in various offices of distinctive public trust, including that of representative in the state legislature and, though invariably unostentatious and unassuming, he is recognized as one of the substantial capitalists and essentially representative citizens of his native county.

Charles Ash was born upon the old homestead farm in Jackson township, this county, on the 18th of December, 1857, and is a son of William and Rebeccah (Trumbo) Ash. The father was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of April, 1830, and is a son of George and Letitia (Reed) Ash, the former of whom was likewise a native of Bedford county, where he was born in the year 1779. In 1833 he came to Seneca county, Ohio, and secured one hundred and sixty acres of heavily timbered land in Liberty township. There he reclaimed a farm upon which he continued to reside until his death, at the patriarchal age of ninety years, his wife having passed away at the age of sixty-eight years.

William Ash was reared under the scenes and conditions of the pioneer epoch in this section of the state and through his mature judgment and well directed efforts he has become one of the large landholders and influential citizens of the county, where he now owns more than twelve hundred acres of land. For many years he was also a prominent factor in the buying and shipping of live stock, as well as of grain. He has served in various public offices, including that of justice of the peace, which he retained for more than a quarter of a century. He has long served as vice president of the First National Bank of Fostoria. His wife was born and reared in Seneca county and is a daughter of Enoch Trumbo, one of the prominent pioneers of this section of the state. Of the three children two are living: Ellen, who is the wife of Alfred Nowrey, of Jackson township, and Charles, who is the subject of this review. Concerning the career of the honorable Charles Ash, the following data are well worthy of reproduction in this volume:



"Our subject was reared and received his early educational training in the public schools of the locality. At the age of eighteen years he became actively associated with his father in the buying and shipping of live stock, soon giving evidence of the discrimination and that executive capacity which have been the conservators of his success. In February, 1885, Mr. Ash effected the purchase of eighty acres of his present fine homestead, and forthwith located on the same, where, in connection with general agriculture, he continued to devote his attention to the buying and selling of live stock for a number of years, his operations in the line being marked benefit in furthering the advancement of the stock industry in this locality. He has added to his landed estate until he now owns more than twelve hundred acres of as valuable land as can be found in the county, the same having been equipped with the best of permanent improvements. His farming is conducted by tenants, though in past years he did an extensive business, cultivating several hundred acres, with several men in his employ. He also owns three hundred and twenty acres in Logan county, Kansas. Nearly a decade ago Mr. Ash enlarged the scope of his operations by beginning to buy and ship grain, initiating this enterprise in a somewhat modest way. It has, however, been cumulative in character, and in the summer of 1901 he erected a well equipped grain elevator in the village of Amsden, where he handled a large business in this line, making extensive shipments and thus aiding materially in advancing the agricultural interests of the locality. He is essentially alert and public spirited in his attitude, and his interest in all that conserves the general welfare is unabating."

Besides his extensive farming interests Mr. Ash is identified with many important industrial enterprises which have conserved the advancement and prosperity of his home county. He is president of the Commercial Savings Bank of Fostoria, in which he is one of the largest stockholders, as is he also in the Standard Light & Power Company of that city. He is also secretary and treasurer of the Fostoria Union Stock Yards & Commission Company, besides which he holds stock in other industrial concerns.

In politics Mr. Ash has ever accorded unswerving allegiance to the cause of the Republican party and he has served two terms as treasurer of his native county. His election to this most important office showed most conclusively the estimate placed upon him in his home county, for the same normally gives a Democratic majority of fifteen hundred votes, while as a Republican he received a majority of twelve hundred votes at the time of his first election. He was a township clerk for two years and for years held the office of justice of the peace. His first election to the office of county treasurer occurred in 1901 and he was re-elected. He gave a most able and discriminating administration of the fiscal affairs of the county and thus marked himself for higher political honors. He is the only Republican ever elected treasurer of Seneca county. In November, 1908, Mr. Ash was elected to represent the county in the lower house of the state legislature, in which he served one term and made an admirable record for faithful

work in behalf of good government and wise legislation. He is identified with Fostoria Lodge, No. 305, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Kansas Lodge, No. 183, Knights of Pythias; and Kansas Tent, No. 288, Knights of the Maccabees, the two last named lodges being located in the village of Kansas, this county. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church at Amsden and he is chairman of its board of trustees.

On the 25th of March, 1883, Mr. Ash was united in marriage to Miss Belle F. Foster, who was born in Jackson township, this county, and who was the daughter of Sampson and Margaret (Stahl) Foster. Her father was an influential farmer of this county. Mr. and Mrs. Ash became the parents of five children, two of whom, William and Rebecca, died in infancy; Earl F., who was born on the 19th of April, 1886, is now associated with his father in the farming and grain business; Herbert F., who was born in October, 1888, was graduated in the Tiffin high school and in 1910 was graduated at Heidelberg College, in the same village; Carmen is a student in the Bristol school, at Washington, District of Columbia, and is a young woman of most gracious personality. Mrs. Ash was summoned to the life eternal in 1907. Mr. Ash contracted a second marriage, being then united to Mrs. Jeanette C. Chamberlain, who was born in Crawford county, and whose father moved to Seneca county when she was a child.

ARTHUR M. HENNEY.—Residing with his parents on the old homestead farm in Thompson township which was the place of his birth, Mr. Henney is numbered among the popular young men of Seneca county, and in addition to being identified with the operation of the farm he is also engaged in the manufacturing of the Morning Star acetelyn gas machines, of which he is the inventor and patentee.

Mr. Henney was born on the farm which is still his home and the date of his nativity was November 2, 1875. He is a son of Aaron and Anna (Gilbert) Henney, the former of whom was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, on the 15th of May, 1841, and the latter of whom was born in Seneca county, Ohio, on the 31st of July, 1851, a daughter of Perry and Barbara (Mowery) Gilbert, the latter of whom died when Mrs. Henney was a child of three years. Aaron Henney was about twelve years of age at the time of his parents removal from the old Keystone state to Ohio, and for the first three years the family home was in Huron county. In 1856 removal was made to Thompson township, Seneca county, where the paternal grandfather of the subject of this review purchased one hundred and forty-four acres of land, which he developed into a productive farm. Aaron Henney continued to reside with his parents until the time of his marriage, when he removed to Sherman township, Huron county, where he was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1860, when he returned to Seneca county and purchased his present fine farm of eighty-eight acres in Thompson township. He has made the best of improvements on this homestead, which has been his place of abode for a half century, and here he and his devoted wife are enjoying the

gracious prosperity which is the due reward of former years of earnest toil and endeavor. With them reside their son Arthur M. and his wife, and the father is now living virtually retired from active labor, though he still maintains a general supervision of his farm. He is a man who has ever commanded the unqualified confidence and esteem of the community in which he has so long maintained his home, and he holds prestige as one of the representative agriculturists of the county. His political allegiance is given to the Democratic party and both he and his wife hold membership in the United Evangelical church at Flat Rock. The only other surviving child of Aaron and Anna Henney is Myrtle, who is now the wife of Charles Mook, a prosperous farmer of Sandusky county, they have one child, Deloris.

Arthur M. Henney was reared to adult age on the home farm and early began to contribute his quota to its work, the while he duly availed himself of the advantages afforded in the public schools. He has continued to be associated in the management of the farm during the intervening years, and remains with his wife in the old homestead which was the place of his birth. He has taken a loyal interest in all that has touched the welfare of his native county and while he has never been ambitious for public office he accords a stanch support to the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor.

On the 2nd of December, 1903, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Henney to Miss Jennie Bennehoff, who was born in Thompson township, this county, on the 26th of February, 1882, and who is a daughter of William F. and Barbara (Royer) Bennehoff, the former of whom was born in Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, and the latter at Fireside, Seneca county, Ohio. Mrs. Bennehoff was a daughter of Samuel and Mary (Bunn) Royer and a sister of Judge John C. Royer, of Tiffin, who is one of the representative legists and jurists of Seneca county and who has served as a member of the state senate. The original progenitors of the Royer family in America came to the new world on the historic ship "Mayflower," on the occasion of its first voyage to America. Samuel Royer was a son of John and Mary M. (Romig) Royer, both of whom were born in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, whence they came to Ohio and took up their residence in Wayne county about the year 1820. In 1829 they came to Seneca county and Mr. Royer here purchased a tract of heavily timbered land in Thompson township, where he eventually reclaimed a good farm, upon which both he and his wife passed the residue of their lives. The family was one of the first three to make permanent location in Thompson township, and the name has been closely identified with the social and material development and progress of Seneca county, where many of its representatives still remain. John Royer was eighty-seven years of age at the time of his death, and his wife preceded him to eternal rest by a number of years. The Romig family likewise was numbered among the very early settlers of Thompson township.

Samuel Royer was four years of age at the time of the family removal to Seneca county, where he received such educational



advantages as were afforded in the pioneer schools and where he did his part in the arduous work of reclaiming the home farm. He continued to be identified with the great basic art of agriculture until his death, at the age of fifty-nine years. He and his wife were devoted members of the Reformed church and Mrs. Royer, long surviving her husband, is passing the closing years of her life in the home of her son, Hon. John C. Royer, of Tiffin. Samuel and Mary Ann (Bunn) Royer became the parents of fifteen children, and it is worthy of note in this connection that Mrs. Royer and her two sisters had a total of forty-three children.

William F. Bennehoff was born August 20, 1842, and died April 8, 1867; his wife was born January 18, 1856, and her death occurred January 12, 1898. William F. Bennehoff was a son of Solomon and Anna (Raicler) Bennehoff who were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they came to Ohio and established their home in Seneca county in 1843. Mr. and Mrs. Henney have two children, Thelma M., who was born April 29, 1906, and Naoma E., who was born August 16, 1908.

Mr. Henney is a man of much inventive genius and among the practical devices originated and patented by him is a machine for the generation of acetelyn gas. This is a recognized improvement over all other machines devised for this purpose, and which constitute the nucleus of admirable lighting plants for residences, business establishments, etc. He is broad minded and progressive in his civic attitude and while never a seeker of public office he is found arrayed as a stalwart supporter of the principles and policies for which the Democratic party stands sponsor.

MAHLON A. THOMAS.—The spirit of enterprise and progressiveness that has been so potent in the development and upbuilding of Seneca county finds strong exemplification in the career of this business man of Fostoria, and his standing in the community is such as to well entitle him to consideration in this publication. He is prominently identified with the various lines of industrial and business enterprise and as an owner and dealer in real estate he has done much to further the material upbuilding of his home city.

Mahlon A. Thomas was born in Ripley township, Huron county, Ohio, on the 17th of December, 1855, and is a son of Delos L. and Abbie J. (Hulbert) Thomas. The lineage of the Thomas family is traced back to staunch English origin and Amos Thomas, great-grandfather of the subject of this review, was the founder of the family in America. This worthy ancestor established his home in Otsego county, New York, where he continued to reside until his death. His son Mahlon was the grandfather of him whose name initiates this review, and Mahlon Thomas, Sr., married Miss Elmira Baker and their son, Delos L. was born and reared in Otsego county, New York, as was also his wife, who was a daughter of Hatzel Hulbert, a representative farmer of that county. Soon after their marriage the parents of Mr. Thomas emigrated to the west and established their home in Huron county, Ohio, about the year 1850. There the father died on the 27th

of December, 1899, his birth having occurred in 1827. He developed one of the fine farms of Huron county and was one of the honored pioneer citizens of that county at the time when he was called to the life eternal. His wife, who was likewise born in the year 1827, died in September, 1892, both having been devout and zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They became the parents of five children, of whom two are living, Mahlon A., whose name introduces this article, and William Leonard, who is a resident of Hastings, Michigan.

Mahlon A. Thomas was reared to the sturdy discipline of the home farm, with whose work and management he continued to be identified until he was twenty years of age, in the meanwhile having been accorded the advantages of the public schools of his native county. For two years he was a student in the high school at Plymouth and for several terms he continued his studies in a normal school in Ohio. In his youth Mr. Thomas learned the valuable lessons of consecutive industry and he has ever retained an appreciation of the value of honest toil and endeavor. In 1892 he established his home in Fostoria, where he conducted a general merchandise business for five years, at the expiration of which he disposed of the same and turned his attention to the real estate business, in which his operations have been of wide scope and importance and in connection with which he has gained a reputation for fair and honorable dealings and for the careful protection of the interests of his patrons. He is associated with his brother in the ownership of several farms in Huron and Wood counties, this state, and these properties are very valuable owing to their highly improved condition. The brothers have also been prominently identified with oil operations in Wood county, where they have held large leases of land and operated many wells. Mr. Thomas has made extensive improvements on real estate owned or controlled by him in Fostoria and in his business operations, as well as in a generic way, he has at all times shown high civic pride and loyalty. He is a stockholder in an automobile manufactory in Fostoria, is a director in the Union National Bank and is president of the Mechanics' Banking Company, which conducts a state bank at Bradner, this county. Mr. Thomas has shown marked administrative and executive ability and has been in the most significant sense the architect of his own fortunes. His acumen in connection with financial operations has made him a valued factor in connection with the banking interests, with which he is identified, and he is known as one of the able representatives of financial interests in Seneca county.

In politics Mr. Thomas accords a stanch allegiance to the Republican party in so far as national and state issues are involved, but in local affairs he maintains an independent attitude, giving his support to the men and measures meeting the approval of his judgment. He is a trustee of the Presbyterian church in Fostoria, of which Mrs. Thomas is a most zealous member and in which she is serving as president of the Ladies' Aid Society. The following statements relative to the subject of this review are well worthy of perpetuation in this sketch: "In business Mr. Thomas has

achieved success through honorable efforts, untiring industry and capable management, and in private life he has gained that personal warm regard which is a recognition of worth of character, deference for the opinions of others, kindness and geniality. He is fond of hunting, finds recreation in numerous excursions in forest and field, visiting the best hunting grounds in Michigan and the south. His home is one of the most attractive residence properties in the city of Fostoria and is the center of refined hospitality, both he and his wife being prominent in the social life of the community."

On the 21st of October, 1880, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Thomas to Miss Ida J. Hammond, who was born and reared in Huron county, this state, and whose father, now deceased, was one of the representative farmers of that county. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have no children.

CLARENCE S. STREELY.—The able and popular ticket agent for the Burlington & Ohio Railroad in the city of Fostoria has been long and prominently identified with railroad interests and his fidelity and effective service have been indicated by the many positions of trust to which he has been called in this connection, the while his unfailing courtesy and genial personality have gained to him the esteem of the traveling public, as well as the high regard of the various communities in which he has maintained his home.

Clarence S. Streely was born at Maple Park, Kane county, Illinois, on the 28th of November, 1859, and he is indebted to the public schools for his early educational discipline, which included a course in the high school in Elkhart, Indiana. In that city he secured employment in a paint shop and later he was similarly employed in the celebrated Studebaker Wagon & Carriage Manufactory, at South Bend, Indiana. Finally he learned the telegraphist's trade and in 1882 he was given the position of telegraph operator and ticket agent for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad at Warsaw, Indiana. Later he entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and was stationed at Crestline, as operator and agent. From there he removed to Green River, Wyoming, where he was similarly employed in the service of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. Later he held the position of treasurer in the office of the Wabash Railroad Company, in the city of Detroit, Michigan, and coming to Fostoria, Ohio, he entered the employ of the Burlington & Ohio Railroad Company, with whose services he has here since been identified. He has the distinction at the present time of being the oldest employe, in point of consecutive service, in his department. Mr. Streely has ever shown the utmost courtesy and solicitude in his treatment of the people with whom he has come in contact in an official and private capacity and by this means he has not only given the more effective service to the companies by which he has been employed but has also justified the high esteem which has been accorded him in a popular way. In politics he gives his support to the Republican party and he is identified with the order of Railway Trainmen. Mr. Streely was united in marriage to Miss Rose Woessner and they have one



son, Frederick, who was born on the 5th of May, 1888, and who is now employed by the Hocking Valley Railroad Company at Fostoria. He married Miss Catherine Smithers.

ALBERT ABBOTT, a Seneca county farmer, residing at 243 N. Washington street, Tiffin, Ohio, was born in Liberty township, this county, January 28, 1848, son of Henry and Eliza (Lott) Abbott. Henry Abbott was one of the early settlers of Seneca county, he having come here previous to his marriage; and his wife was a native of the county. They were the parents of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, all of whom were reared at the old homestead in Pleasant township, and received their educations in the district school near by.

After the father's death, which occurred in 1862, the sons continued the farming operations, and subsequently Albert bought the interests of the other heirs and acquired title to the farm, the operations of which he has since conducted. He now owns 260 acres on section 29, Pleasant township, where he lived until 1903, when he moved his family to their present home in Tiffin. And while they live in the city, he still looks after his farm.

On March 18, 1880, Mr. Abbott married Miss Addie Sager, who was born in Pleasant township, June 22, 1856, daughter of Benjamin and Susan (Thompson) Sager; and the fruits of this union are two sons. Herbert, born January 7, 1881, is a graduate of the Tiffin High School and the Ann Arbor (Michigan) Law School, and is engaged in the practice of law at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The other son, Carl, was born June 20, 1886, and at this writing resides with his parents. Politically, Mr. Abbott is a Republican.

GRANT LOTT, a native of Liberty township and the grandson of a well known pioneer, is not only one of the large land holders and successful farmers and stock raisers, but he is prominent in public affairs as well, being one of the pillars of local Republicanism. He was for many years a member of the central committee, was the former clerk of Liberty township, and his interest in the advancement of good education being known is at present a member and clerk of the board of education.

Mr. Lott was born April 16, 1863, and is the son of James and Margaret (Feasel) Lott. The father was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, December 4, 1826, but when a child, in 1832, removed with his parents to Seneca county, they settling in section 29, Liberty township. The grandfather, Reuben Lott, was a native of New Jersey, who later removed to Pennsylvania and then came to Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1819. The country was very new at the time of his locating in Ohio, and he built the third cabin in Liberty township. Here he made his home for the residue of his life. He was a Whig and later, upon the formation of that party, a Republican, and he held the office of constable. His death occurred at the age of ninety years.

As previously mentioned James Lott's residence in Seneca county dated from the year 1832. Here he was reared and here

became not only a farmer of means, but a man of political note, as an exponent of the Republican party, serving in various township offices. He was a member of the United Brethren church. His land comprised some two hundred and forty acres, much of which he cleared himself. His wife died in 1885, but he survived until 1903. They were the parents of six children, five of whom survive at the present time, the eldest having been burned to death at the age of two and one half years. Laura is the wife of Charles M. Cross of Indianapolis. John L. is a member of the legal fraternity who has attained to no small amount of distinction, having held the office of assistant state attorney-general of Ohio for a number of years and being at present special United States attorney of Washington, D. C. Sherman W., is an attorney practising in Toledo, Ohio. The youngest is Anna M. Lott of Liberty township, who resides on the old homestead.

Grant Lott was reared upon his father's homestead and received an unusually thorough education, taking full advantage of the public school opportunities, and after an attendance at the Fostoria Academy, spending three years at Heidelberg University. Shortly after leaving college he accepted a position as traveling salesman for a firm having their headquarters in Indianapolis, Indiana, and he spent about three years thus engaged, in that time acquiring a commercial experience of an interesting character. After his marriage in 1895 he devoted his entire attention to his lands, engaging extensively in farming and stock raising and his endeavors have resulted in the most unqualified success. He has charge of two hundred and forty acres and is scientific and up-to-date in his methods.

On May 1, 1895, Mr. Lott took as his wife Bertha Armstrong, of Indianapolis, she having been born in Champaign county, Illinois, March 21, 1874. She received her education in the public schools, but has herself supplemented this in the most effectual manner, being a wide reader and student today. They have one son, Harold E., born in August, 1896. Mrs. Lott is a member of the United Brethren church and Mr. Lott gives liberal support to the same. His political activities are of an important character and his support is sought as a most valuable adjunct. His election to the clerkship of Liberty township was in 1902 and he continued to be the incumbent of this office for seven years. It may well be said of him that he is of the best type of politician, being honest and direct in his methods.

WILLIAM I. ZECHMAN.—The name of Zechman is well and honorably known in Seneca county, and it has been identified with this section of the Buckeye state only since about 1873, when William I. Zechman, then less than twenty years of age, answered the challenge of a youthful desire for change and adventure and came westward to meet as a soldier of fortune adventure more pleasant in retrospect than when experienced.

Mr. Zechman was born July 19, 1854, in the state of Pennsylvania (Snyder county) and is the son of Simeon and Elizabeth A. (Bilger) Zechman, both of them also natives of the Keystone state.

The father was a mason by trade and a veteran of the Civil war, in which he saw service almost from beginning to end of that great conflict. He enlisted at the beginning of the war in 1861 in Company F, Fifty-sixth Regiment. Although one of the first to enlist the elder Mr. Zechman never applied for a pension, and gloried in having given his service to the country he loved without hope or idea of reward. Upon the return of peace he resumed his trade. The subject was one of a family of seven children, the members of the family being Zachariah T., William I., John F., Robert, Mary E., Adda M. and George H.

Prior to his leaving for Ohio on the fifth day of August, 1873, William I. Zechman had resided with his parents. He initiated his journey by going by railroad as far as Pittsburg, and from that city he went on foot to Fort Wayne and proceeded in the same manner to Three Rivers, Michigan, and thence to Bellevue, Ohio. His financial reserve was low and at night he slept in the woods, too tired and footsore to heed the dismal howling of the wolves and the other far from soothing sounds of the forests at that time. Sometimes he found a night's repose on a depot platform and his meals were gained in various and sundry fashions. When he reached Bellevue he hired out to cut wood in Adams township and for several months engaged in this strenuous toil.

On the 10th day of December, 1874, Mr. Zechman was united in marriage to Mary E. Arnold, born in 1858 and the daughter of David and Sarah (McCauley) Arnold, natives of Pennsylvania and West Lodi, Ohio, respectively. The mother came to Ohio with her parents in 1840, when about six years of age, and they located south of Flat Rock on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, which they zealously improved and brought to a state of fruitfulness. Mrs. Zechman's grandfather, Samuel Arnold, came to Seneca county and located on a farm six miles south of West Lodi, in Thompson township. Mrs. Zechman is one of a family of four children, the other members being, Philip, who died at the age of four years, Eliza and William.

For some years following his marriage Mr. Zechman resided on a farm in Adams township, the time of his residence there being about nine years in duration. They then secured seventy acres of their own and took up their residence upon this tract, remaining for five years, after which they moved to property west of Bellevue, which they rented from one of Seneca county's landholders. They subsequently secured farming property near Flat Rock and having engaged in its cultivation for some time then took up the management of a farm of T. E. Wyant. At the end of a year's time they purchased a home in Flat Rock, where they now reside, enjoying the advantages of town life and at the same time profitably cultivating a forty-two acre farm near by and another of fifty-two acres somewhat south of that. Mr. Zechman is to be counted among the considerable property owners, being the proprietor of a business block, five houses and lots and two lots which contain a fish pond filled with fish. He is a man of varied interests and also deals in black walnut logs and scrap iron. His



career should be particularly gratifying to him when he remembered that he started with a princely capital of fifteen dollars.

To Mr. Zechman and his wife have been born four children. The eldest daughter, Sarah A., born December 3, 1875, became the wife of Henry May, of Bellevue, and died May 22, 1902. George D., born June 1, 1878, is located in Flat Rock in the shoe business. He married Barbara M. Link, of Minnesota, and is the father of a daughter, Mildred, born January 11, 1906. Burton F., born February 29, 1880, is engaged as railroad conductor, with headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. Arthur W., born March 9, 1882, is located in Flat Rock, where he manages a hardware business. He married Lydia M. Murbach, of Whitehouse, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Josephine E. born March 1, 1908.

Mr. Zechman and his family are faithful members of the Evangelical church, in whose affairs they take an active interest and to whose support they afford generous contribution. The wife is a valued member of the Missionary society. In his political adherence Mr. Zechman gives his heart and hand to the men and measures of the Republican party, and in evidence of the confidence in which he is held by his associates is the fact that he has been intrusted with various township offices. He has rendered estimable service during an eleven years' career as a member of the school board.

In a resume of the subject's business activities there should be included the fact that he deals extensively in furs and skins, and he has traveled over various sections buying these commodities. He also ships a great many car loads of iron and hides during the year. He is one of the substantial men of Flat Rock and the surrounding country and is widely known by reason of personal popularity and his varied business associations.

GEORGE D. ZECHMAN, son of William I. and Mary (Arnold) Zechman, the former one of the most prosperous and influential citizens of Flat Rock, whose career is sketched in detail on other pages of this work is one of the live business men of this part of Seneca county, being the proprietor of an up-to-date shoe shop and also pursuing the vocation of a painter. He was born June 1, 1878, the scene of his nativity being Adams township. On the 28th day of September, 1905, he was united in marriage to Barbara Link, a young woman born April 23, 1875, her parents being Albert and Frances (Geisler) Link, natives of Bavaria, Germany. When a youth of sixteen the father paid his adieus to the old country and sailed for the shores upon which he expected to find opportunity awaiting him. He was accompanied by his parents, John J. and Anna C. (Smith) Link, and first located in New York, going thence to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they became the proprietors of a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1895 they retired and removed to the town of Preston, where they at present reside, enjoying in their declining years the fruits of their previous thrift and industry.

Mrs. Zechman's father was born June 10, 1847, and his wife, September 14, 1850. The latter is the daughter of Anna Barbara

Geisler, a German, who upon coming to the United States, located in New Orleans, Mrs. Zechman's mother being at that time but nine months old. From Louisiana they removed to Minnesota, and in that state the parents of the subject's wife were united in matrimony in the month of November, 1869. Nine children were the issue of this union: Mary C., born September 30, 1870, resides at home with her parents; Joseph, born in September, 1871, is a Minnesota farmer, his land being situated near Racine; John died in infancy; Carrie, born August 25, 1872, married Alfred Ginder, and is now deceased, a son, William A., surviving her; Anna B.; Rev. H. W. Link, born in 1878, now pastor of the Evangelical church of Fostoria, married Laura Hahn, and is the father of one child, named Francis M.; Sarah, born in June, 1879, is the wife of Charles DeHaven, of Idaho, and the mother of five children; Louisa M., born January 27, 1884, is the wife of Earl D. Miller, of Flat Rock; Emma C., born February 17, 1886, wife of Hugo M. Henderson, of Preston, Minnesota, and mother of three children; named Mary, Howard and Eveline M. Joseph, mentioned above, married Lizzie Burkhard of Racine, Minnesota, and has four children, who answer to the names of Walter J., Flossie L., Raymond A. and Louisa E.

Shortly after his marriage Mr. Zechman returned with his bride to Flat Rock and there they took up their residence, both of them now playing an important part in the many sided life of the community. As said before Mr. Zechman is a shoemaker and owns and conducts a first class shoe store, enjoying a large and ever growing patronage. Mrs. Zechman is a zealous member of the Evangelical church and takes an active part in all its affairs. She is a teacher in the Sunday School; belongs to the missionary society, was formerly president of the Young People's Association, and holds membership in the local Women's Christian Temperance Union. They have one child, a daughter, named Mildred Gertrude, born January 11, 1907.

ARTHUR W. ZECHMAN is one of Flat Rock's influential citizens and up-to-date men of affairs, conducting a hardware and roofing business whose transactions average over eight thousand dollars annually, his patronage coming not only from the busy center in which he resides but as well from the outlying districts. Not only is Mr. Zechman favorably known in this section, but he has an interesting and honorable ancestry whose description is well worth the telling. Mr. Zechman is one of the younger generation of business men, his nativity having occurred March 9, 1882, and his parents being William I. and Mary (Arnold) Zechman. The father was born July 19, 1854, in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, and is the son of Simeon and Elizabeth A. (Bilger) Zechman. The subject's grandfather, Simeon Zechman, saw service at the time of the Civil war, serving as the lieutenant of his company, Company F. Fifty-sixth Regiment. He was not among those who escaped unscathed, but received numerous bullet wounds, whose scars long gave eloquent testimony of his valiance and bravery in the defense of his loved country. He enlisted in 1861 and

was mustered out in 1865. He was a brick mason by trade and upon the return of peace he returned to his trade, as a good citizen serving his country as faithfully in time of peace as in war. He was the father of seven children, whose names were Zachariah, William I., John F., Robert A., Mary E., Adda M. and George H.

The father of him whose name initiates this review remained beneath the parental roof until his twentieth year, when he concluded to seek new fortunes in the west. He went by boat to Pittsburg, then went on foot to Fort Wayne, Indiana, thence to Three Rivers, Michigan, and thence to Bellevue, Ohio, making the whole journey on foot from Pittsburg and at night sleeping in the woods or on station platforms. Upon arriving at Bellevue he hired as a wood cutter to a man in Adams township and soon afterward, in 1874, he married Mary E. Arnold, born in 1858, to David and Sarah (McCauly) Arnold, natives of western Ohio and Pennsylvania. Her mother had come to Ohio with her parents in 1840, when six years of age. They had located on land south of Flat Rock, this comprising some one hundred and twenty acres, which they improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. Mrs. William Zechman was one of a family of four children, the other members of the family being: Philip who died at the age of seven years, Eliza A. and William. Samuel Arnold, maternal grandfather of the subject, came to West Lodi, Ohio, from the Keystone state, locating on a farm south of Flat Rock in Thompson township.

For nine years following his marriage William I. Zechman resided on a rented farm in Adams township, and then bought seventy acres to which he removed. After five years residence upon the same he went to Bellevue and after staying there a short time, came to Flat Rock and bought the house and lot where he now resides. He has prospered and although he had but fifteen dollars when he began for himself he now is an owner of no inconsiderable amount of property. This consists of two small farms near the town consisting of forty-two and fifty-two acres, several houses and lots in Flat Rock, and a large brick block in Flat Rock, and other holdings. He is engaged in the walnut lumber and iron business and is one of the substantial citizens of the locality.

To William Zechman and his wife were born four children: Sarah, born December 31, 1875, married Henry May, of Bellevue, and died May 22, 1902; George D., born June 1, 1878, who is located in Flat Rock, in the shoe business, married Barbara M. Link, of Preston, Minnesota, and is the father of one child, Mildred, born January 11, 1906; Burton F., born February 29, 1880, is located in Ohio's capital city where he is engaged as a conductor on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Mr. Zechman's political faith is Republican and both he and his wife are members of the Evangelical church, in which they take an active part, the latter being a valued member of the Missionary society. The head of the house has held various township offices and served as a member of the school board for eleven years.

In the manner of so many successful men Arthur W. Zechman



spent his earlier years upon the farm, amid its quiet and peaceful scenes learning those lessons in industry, thriftiness and honor which have since stood him in such good stead. He attended the schools of Flat Rock. When about twenty years of age he secured a position with the Orphans' Home at Flat Rock, where he acted in the capacity of a farm hand for some three years. He was married in 1906 and about that time took up the tinner's trade. After working for a short time in an inferior capacity he concluded to establish himself upon a more independent footing and in July, 1910, he opened a hardware store in Flat Rock, where he has experienced the greatest success, now dealing in both hardware and roofing and enjoying a large and ever increasing patronage.

The marriage of Mr. Zechman was celebrated June 6, 1906. His wife, whose maiden name was Lydia Murbach, is the daughter of John Jacob Murbach, born June 6, 1853, and his wife, Elizabeth (Wickerly) Murbach. The date of her nativity was October 25, 1883. Mrs. Zechman's father was a native of the northern part of Switzerland, who crossed the seas to the "land of promise" when he was about twenty years of age. The young woman he made his wife was an Ohioan, a daughter of Martin and Anna (Sharer) Wickerley, her birth having occurred January 1, 1857, in Lucas county. John Jacob Murbach after an active career as an agriculturist is now living retired. He received his education in the old country and lived near the Rhinefall at Schoffhusen. The date of his emigration to these shores was June 30, 1873. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical church. Mrs. Murbach's father emigrated from Germany and located near White House, Ohio, on a farm of sixty acres.

The wife of the subject was engaged at the Orphans' Home at Flat Rock as a dining room girl for a year and a half prior to her marriage, and it was there that she met her husband. She is one of a family of seven children. They are in order of birth: Martha, born in January, 1881; Mrs. Zechman; George, born in September, 1884; Walter, born in November, 1886; Ida, born in June, 1888; Mary, born in October, 1890; Esther, born in August, 1896. Mrs. Zechman was educated at White House and graduated with the class of 1902. These people are among the leading citizens of the township and are widely known, their circle of acquaintances being coincident with that of their friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Zechman are the parents of one child, a daughter named Josephine, born March 1, 1909. They stand for all that is best and most elevating in the township and their church membership extends to the Evangelical church, in which they take an active part, he being class leader and steward, and his wife holding membership in the Woman's Missionary Society. He is a staunch Republican and a keen student of current events. In recognition of the confidence in which he is held by his associates he has been elected to several township offices and has several times held membership on the township board.

He owns his attractive and commodious home and has fitted it with modern conveniences, among them being a fine lighting system.

ALBERT J. HAFLEY.—An active and highly esteemed citizen of Tiffin, distinguished for his ability and integrity, Albert J. Hafley is prominent in public affairs, at the present time holding the responsible position of treasurer of Clinton township. He was born March 2, 1867, in Cleveland, Ohio, and when but two years of age was brought by his parents to Tiffin, where he has since resided.

Educated in the public schools of Tiffin, he completed the studies of the eighth grade, after which he began the trade of a machinist with the National Machine Company, remaining with that company until March 15, 1890. On that day Mr. Hafley met with a serious accident, losing his left hand. Being forced to change his occupation, he began to read law, making a special study of bookkeeping and commercial law. He afterwards accepted a position as bookkeeper with the Tiffin Gas Works, retaining it until the gas gave out. He subsequently served seven years as clerk of Clinton township, and being then elected township treasurer of Clinton township has served in this capacity ever since. For the past ten years Mr. Hafley has also been bookkeeper for Mr. J. B. Matthias, a position for which he is eminently qualified.

Mr. Hafley married, in 1897, Anna J. Matthias, a daughter of J. B. Matthias, and of the five children that have been born to their union three are now living. Mr. Hafley and his family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic church.

RANSOM J. HIGGINS.—A substantial and prosperous resident of Clinton township, Ransom J. Higgins is actively identified with one of the leading industries of this section of Seneca county, being owner of two valuable oil farms which are highly productive, yielding him an excellent annual income. A native of Ohio, he was born August 1, 1852, in Wyandot county, where he was reared to agricultural pursuits. His father, John Higgins, was born and bred in Maryland. Coming as a young man to Ohio, he settled first in Newark, Licking county, where he met and married Joanna Klinker, a native of New York state. He afterwards bought land in Wyandot county, and was there engaged in general farming for many years.

Brought up on the parental homestead, Ransom J. Higgins obtained the rudiments of his education in the district schools, after which he attended Buchtel College, in Akron, Ohio, two terms. He then turned his attention to the pursuit of agriculture, and finding the occupation both pleasant and profitable has since continued thus employed the greater part of the time. For three years he lived with his family in Tiffin. In 1905 he purchased his present home farm of thirty-seven acres in Clinton township, where he has since resided. This farm is rich in oil, and has three producing wells with a seemingly inexhaustible supply of this valuable product. He also owns another oil producing estate in Clinton township, a farm of eighty acres situated near Swander Station. Politically Mr. Higgins is a Republican, but has never been an aspirant for official honors. Fraternally he is a member of McCutchenville Lodge, No. 314, F. & A. M. Although Mr. Higgins lives

on his farm, he does not do the actual farm labor, but wisely superintends the operation of his wells and of his land.

On the 23rd of March, 1875, Mr. Higgins married Olive Slaymaker, who was born and brought up in Seneca county, Ohio, and to them three children have been born, the eldest of whom lived but a brief time. The two now living are as follows: Ernest J., born March 9, 1879, was graduated from the Tiffin High School, class of 1900 and after taking a two years' course in the Ohio University established himself as a druggist at Norwalk, Ohio; and Mabel H., born February 7, 1890, is a graduate of the Tiffin High School and is living at home with her parents.

GEORGE A. GEYER was born at Woodville, Sandusky county, Ohio, April 20, 1873, a son of H. H. and Paulina (Allen) Geyer, natives respectively of Buffalo, New York, and Woodville, Ohio. When he was about ten years of age his parents moved from Woodville to Seneca county. After having gained a good primary education in excellent public schools he entered Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, where he pursued his studies until he was ready to begin his active business career. Mr. Geyer was for thirteen years until 1907 a traveling salesman for a concern engaged in the manufacture of buggies. In the year just mentioned he went into the hardware business, and his store on Main street, Bettsville, is one of the land marks of that town. He has taken an interest in the general enterprise and prosperity of the place, as is evidenced by the fact that he is a stockholder in the Bettsville Banking Company. As a business man he is regarded as one of the leaders in the community. If he were called upon to mention the source of his business success he would probably refer to the knowledge of men and of trade conditions which he acquired as a traveling salesman. His neighbors might attribute his prosperity to his honest, upright character, to his affable manners and to his real desire to be useful to his fellow citizens.

In 1900 Mr. Geyer married Miss Ora Blue, and in 1904 she bore him a son whom they named Paul. Politically Mr. Geyer is an earnest Republican, but beyond doing his duty as a citizen he takes no active interest in public affairs. He is a Mason, affiliating with the Greenspring Lodge No. 427, Free and Accepted Masons and enjoying the distinction of being a Knight Templar. He is a member also of Kansas Lodge, No. 183, Knights of Pythias, of Kansas, Ohio.

HOWARD E. WOLFE.—Not only is Howard E. Wolfe a native of Hopewell township, but he also has the somewhat unusual distinction to have been born upon the very farm upon which he now makes his residence. His birthdate is June 25, 1870, and he is the son of Solomon and Mahalah A. (Bowless) Wolfe, and the youngest of the five children born to this worthy pair. Of these four are now living at the present day, namely: Jesse, a farmer who resides in Hopewell township with his brother Howard; Rose, wife of George Schroth of Tiffin; Catherine, who is unmarried and lives at Tiffin; and he whose name initiates this paragraph.



Howard E. Wolfe passed the wholesome boyhood which is the heritage of most farmer's sons and was fortunate enough to receive an excellent education. After receiving a preliminary training in the district schools of his township he became a student at Heidelberg College at Tiffin, and after pursuing a course in that well known institution of learning he acquired a commercial training, also at Tiffin. Although prepared for a career of different nature he was favorably inclined towards agriculture and from the year 1898 he has devoted his entire attention to this vocation, being one of the successful and representative exponents of the same. In addition to general farming he engages in the raising of stock upon a large scale. His interests, however, are by no means confined to his farming, for he is the representative of a number of large corporations. He is one of the directors in the Mutual Relief Association of Hopewell township, a fire insurance company, and he keeps in touch with all the leading movements of the day.

Mr. Wolfe joined the ranks of the Benedicts on January 21, 1898, the lady to become his wife being Miss Della M. Powers, who was born and reared in Hopewell township. Like her husband she took advantage of the educational opportunities afforded by the township, and later finished at Heidelberg University. She is a daughter of Robert and Mary Powers. To this union have been born three children, as follows: Herbert E., born November 27, 1900; Howard A., born November 23, 1902; and Margaret R., born August 2, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, attending that of Clinton township. The former is an adherent of the principles of Republicanism and is very active in the work of the party, his support being sought by a large contingent.

Solomon Wolfe, father of the foregoing, was born in Union county, Pennsylvania, February 8, 1838, his parents being Michael and Margaret (Engleman) Wolfe. His grandparents, Michael and Catherine (Smith) Wolfe, were natives of Lehigh county, Pennsylvania, but subsequently went to Union county, Pennsylvania and cast their lot with the agricultural element, securing uncleared land and with typical pioneer dauntlessness bringing it to tillable condition. The first few years of their son Solomon was spent in Union county, Pennsylvania, but about 1843 he moved to Sandusky county with his parents and lived upon a farm located within its boundaries for the greater portion of his life. It was there that he received his training in the Three R's, as the elementary education was termed in those days, and there he was married on January 16, 1862, to Mahalah Bowless, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Keller) Bowless, natives of Maryland and Seneca county. In the April following the solemnization of their union they located on a farm situated in the southeast part of section 2, this comprising one-fourth of the section. Here engaged in the various departments of the great basic industry of agriculture he lived until the year 1902, when he retired and came to Tiffin, Ohio, his household being situated upon the corner of Clay and Jackson streets. He and his family are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the head of the house casts his vote and

his influence with the Republican party. He is happy in the esteem and friendship of all those who know him best. The three brothers of Solomon Wolfe, Levi, Jack and Jessiah were soldiers in the Civil war. Lévi and Jack are deceased.

HOWARD J. FRY, son of the late James H. Fry, who was filling the office of county commissioner when he died, was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, March 13, 1881. James H. Fry, a native of Virginia, was brought as a child to Seneca county by his parents, who located in Pleasant township. He married Miss Emma Wickert and she bore him two children, Howard J., the immediate subject of this notice, and Orpha, born in 1863, who became the wife of Frank Voorhies, of Gibsonburg, Sandusky county, Ohio. He died in 1883.

Howard J. Fry was reared on the farm on which he now lives and was educated in the public schools and at the Toledo Business College, Toledo, Ohio. He was graduated from the last mentioned institution in 1899, after having taken a comprehensive course which fitted him to take almost any place of high responsibility in the average business office. He was also a student at Ada, Ohio. His tastes led him to the life of a farmer rather than to that of the business man. He was licensed to teach school, but never has done so. He gives attention to general farming, in which he has won much success. His farm is one of the best in its vicinity, has a good residence, a fine barn and ample outbuildings, and is well equipped with modern machinery and appliances.

Mr. Fry married Miss Bessie Baker, a daughter of John Baker, of Sandusky county, Ohio, born and reared on a farm and educated in district schools. She has borne him a daughter, whom they named Norene and who was five years old August 15, 1910. Politically Mr. Fry is a stanch Democrat. While too busy to become an active politician, he is interested in local and national affairs, wields a recognized influence in township matters and is consulted about every public movement of importance by practical men who know the value of his opinion. He owns sixty acres in Liberty township, Seneca county, and one hundred and fifty acres in Sandusky county.

JOHN M. FRY was born in section nine in Liberty township Seneca county, Ohio, September 15, 1856. His father was Daniel Fry, son of George Fry. The latter, who was born in Pennsylvania, came of an old family whose history has been traced to pre-Revolutionary days in the American colonies. Daniel Fry, born December 29, 1829, died September 3, 1910. His wife, who was Sarah Baker, was born in section 9, in that township, in 1832, shared with him the joys and sorrows of old age in the community where they made their home and reared their family and still survives. They had a son and a daughter, John M. Fry and Sarah E. (Fry) Houx, wife of James B. Houx, of Liberty township.

John M. Fry was reared to manhood on his father's farm in Liberty township, learned farming thoroughly and attended the common school near his home. Since he was twenty years old he has given his entire attention to farming. He has de-

voted himself somewhat to the cultivation of sorghum. On November 29, 1877, he married Miss Mary E. Kies, of Liberty township. She died without issue. On May 16, 1907, he married the widow of Charles R. Kies, who was Phoebe A. Kies and was reared to womanhood by Samuel Fry. There are no children by this marriage.

Mr. Fry is a member of the Evangelical church and prominent in connection with its affairs. He is a member of Kansas Lodge, No. 405, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Mrs. Fry is a Rebekah, a member of the organization at Bettsville. He is identified also with Lodge No. 94, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of Tiffin. He is a Democrat, and as such has been chosen to several important offices. He has been township trustee two years, treasurer four years, clerk four years, a member of the Bettsville board of education and of the Liberty board of education, and has been a county commissioner since 1909, having just been returned at the recent election for another term as county commissioner.

GEORGE W. MIGHT.—An idea is conveyed of the ambition and determination of this prosperous business man of Fostoria when it is stated that he came to this city about twenty years ago with his worldly possessions summed up in the contents of a grain sack, which he carried upon his back. By earnest and indefatigable industry and good management he has gained success worthy of the name, the while he has so demeaned himself as to gain and retain the unqualified confidence and esteem of those with whom he has come in contact in business and social connections. Mr. Might was born in Gallia county, Ohio, in September, 1872, and there he was reared on a farm and afforded the advantages of the district schools. In 1889 he came to Fostoria, where he served for some time as car inspector for the Nickel Plate Railroad Company, in whose employ he continued for more than thirteen years. He resigned his position with this company to engage in the coal business, in which he here continued until 1907, when he engaged in the draying business with the modest equipment of one dray. His energy and effective service have enabled him to build up a successful business and he now operates four teams receiving the support of the leading business men of the city and maintaining his office at 108 East North street. He also owns a half interest in the Reservoir Ice Company and is the owner of an attractive residence at 318 west Fremont street.

In politics Mr. Might gives his support to the Republican party and he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Mr. Might married Miss Daisy Knecht, who was born at Union City, Indiana, and they have one son, Gerald, who was born on the 24th of April, 1901.

JAMES A. MILLER.—The J. A. Miller Tile Company is one of the thriving industries of Seneca county, and standing in charge of its destinies is the gentleman whose name it bears. The plant,



which since its inception has experienced a rugged growth, covers a space of eighteen acres and the company own some two hundred acres in Thompson township. Material for the product is secured from the eighteen acres. Mr. Miller was one of the originators of the Tile Drain Company and was chiefly instrumental in building the mill at Bascom in 1887, which up to the year 1893 bore the firm name of Creeger & Miller, after which it received its present designation. In the twenty years of its existence naturally there have been several changes and different partners have been taken into the concern, but always Mr. Miller retained the controlling interest until in 1905, when Thomas H. Drohen became half owner. Even under the present arrangement Mr. Miller manages the concern. The J. A. Miller Tile Company adds materially to the prosperity of Hopewell township and much credit is due to those who maintain it.

Mr. Miller was born in Seneca county, Hopewell township, on the 27th day of December, 1863, his parents being Adam and Margaret (Creeger) Miller, the father a native Pennsylvanian and the mother of Ohio. He shares the lot of so many successful Americans of having been born and reared upon the farm, and his education was obtained in the district school. About the time that he became of age he left the farm and very shortly afterward became engaged upon his career as a manufacturer. Although he started out with little capital he has made the most of every opportunity and by the exercise of sound judgment and and executive ability has built up a substantial business and one of large scope.

On September 22, 1885, he was united in marriage to Miss Clara Ruse, of Hopewell township, where she was born and reared. She is the daughter of Solomon K. and Elizabeth (Alspaugh) Ruse. They are the parents of three sons, who have either attained to or are approaching useful citizenship. Ardie, born September 30, 1889, is married, his wife having been Miss Anna Stuller, daughter of Charles Stuller, and he is associated with his father in the tile business. Russell was born June 2, 1897, and Raymond August 2, 1902. The Miller family are affiliated with the United Brethren church at Bascom. Mr. Miller is an enthusiastic lodge man, his fraternal relations extending to Pickwick Lodge, No. 175, Knights of Pythias of Tiffin Uniformed Rank, and to the Knighted Order of Tented Maccabees at Bascom, of which he is a charter member and past commander. Politically he casts his vote with the Republican party. His attractive home at Bascom is set in the midst of five acres. Mr. Miller was township treasurer, for two terms, having been elected to the office over strong opposition by a large majority.

CHARLES L. PARK was born in Tiffin, Seneca county, Ohio, October 7, 1857, one of two sons of Peter and Sarah (Hemming) Park. Peter Park was born in Tiffin and lived there most of his life. He learned the tailor's trade and worked at it in his younger days. In 1849 he went to California in quest of gold and met with some success there. He was employed in the west for a time in some civil engineering enterprises.

At the tender age of five years Charles L. Park became a member of the family of Jacob and Sarah Flack, who reared him from that time and sent him to the district school, where he obtained a practical education. When he was twenty-one he began farming on shares. In 1883 he married Miss Eda E. Harrison, daughter of John Harrison and a native of Sandusky county, Ohio. They had two sons and a daughter. Clarence and Ralph are farming the Park homestead. Florence is a member of her father's household. All three are well educated. Clarence and Florence have passed the Boxwell examination and Florence is now attending the high school at Fostoria. Mr. and Mrs. Park are members of the Evangelical church of Liberty township. He is a layman of the church and has been Sunday school superintendent twenty-two years. His sons are members of Kansas Lodge, No. 183, Knights of Pythias, of which Ralph is a past chancellor.

In politics Mr. Park is a Republican, devoted to the good work of that party in pushing our country forward to a grand destiny. He has filled the office of assessor and served as a member of the board of education of his township. He has been for nine years treasurer of the Seneca County Sunday School Association. He and his son Ralph are stockholders and he is a director in the Bettsville Banking Company. His farm consists of one hundred and seventy acres in sections 19 and 20, Liberty township.

CHARLES W. REESE.—This prominent citizen of Seneca county, Ohio, was born in Sandusky county, that state, July 28, 1865, a son of J. D. and Jemima (Freet) Reese, and was brought by his parents to Seneca county when he was yet a mere child. When he was in his fifth year his mother died and he was soon given a step mother, his father having married a few years after his own mother's death. He was reared at Kansas Station and acquired a good education in district school, more because he was a diligent and receptive student than because his opportunities were especially good. He accepted a position as traveling salesman, which he filled for fifteen years. In 1889 he married Miss Hattie Lease, daughter of Thomas W. Lease. She had lived at Newmarket, Maryland, till she was thirteen years old, and then she came to Kansas Station, Seneca county.

After his marriage Mr. Reese bought the Jacob Zeis farm of two hundred and forty acres, which is well improved, well stocked and well equipped for successful cultivation. He was in business at Fostoria, Ohio, four years. He is a stockholder in the Union National Bank of that town. In politics he is a stanch Republican. He is a member of Lodge No. 935, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of Fostoria. To Mr. and Mrs. Reese have been born four children, who are here mentioned in the order of their nativity. Ethel is a student in the Fostoria, Ohio, high school. Waldo is a student in the same school. Doran and Robert are awaiting their turn to take advantage of the same excellent opportunities for a practical education.

This account of the busy and successful career of Mr. Reese

should be instructive in many ways, especially to those just about to face the world and its difficulties. It will be recognized as a story of triumph over obstacles of a selfmade man who at the outset had little to depend on but his grit and determination.

**HERMAN S. RUST.**—A man of excellent business capacity, energetic and enterprising, Herman S. Rust is numbered among the active and progressive agriculturists of Seneca county, his well-kept and productive farm being advantageously located in section 22, Clinton township. A native of Ohio, he was born November 25, 1861, in Cincinnati, and when a year and a half old was brought by his parents to Tiffin, where he was brought up and educated. Mr. Rust's father, Dr. Herman Rust, a well known minister and professor in Heidelberg College for over a third of a century, married Elizabeth Geesey, and to them four children were born, namely: J. B., of Tiffin; Mary C., of Tiffin; Herman S., the special subject of this brief biographical sketch; and Calvin E., who is engaged in the real estate business at Pellston, Michigan.

After completing the course of study in the public schools of Tiffin Herman S. Rust was for three years a student in Heidelberg College. He was afterwards here employed in a drug store for about a year, when, following the advice of Horace Greeley, he went westward, and in the succeeding four years was engaged in farming with his cousin in Wisconsin. Going then to southwestern Nebraska, where his father had invested in land, Mr. Rust was there engaged in tilling the soil for another four years. Moving then with his family to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, he remained in that city eight years, being engaged in the dairy business. Returning to Seneca county, Ohio, in May, 1895, Mr. Rust located on his present farm, which is situated two and one-half miles east of Tiffin. Here he owns eighty acres of rich and fertile land, which he has devoted chiefly to general farming and stock raising, although he is at the present time, in 1910, making preparations to carry on market gardening on an extensive scale, his land and location being admirably adapted for that purpose.

While a resident of Nebraska, on August 25, 1886, Mr. Rust was united in marriage with Julia Schwartz, who was born and educated in the city of Milwaukee, and into their household five children have made their advent, namely: Charles H., of Tiffin; Ervin J., of Fremont; Anselm H., born in August, 1895; Erna, born in December, 1897; and Elsie, born in January, 1900. Charles H. married Bertha Reinhard, of Tiffin, December 25, 1909, and they have one child, born in November, 1910. Ervin J. married Iverna Snyder, of Plymouth, Ohio, in September, 1910, and they reside in Fremont. The other children are living with their parents and attending public schools in Tiffin. Mr. and Mrs. Rust are members of the Second Reformed church of Tiffin. Politically Mr. Rust invariably supports the principles of the Republican party.



SOLOMON E. SRODES.—This well known farmer and stock-dealer of Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, was born in Jones county, Iowa, October 7, 1851, a son of Thornton and Caroline (Strode) Srodes. His parents, natives of Virginia, came to Ohio with their parents, were married there and later went to Iowa. About 1853 they returned to Ohio, locating in Seneca county, where Mrs. Srode died in 1855 and where Mr. Srode lived many years. The latter took a second wife, who so far as was possible stood to the immediate subject of this sketch as a mother. When he was old enough to do chores and go to school he was given plenty to do. It is probable that he learned farming faster than he learned his lessons at school, because the method of instruction must have been more practical, but in due time he became a student at a select school at Adrian, Ohio, and was graduated from Heidelberg College, Tiffin. He remained under the parental roof till he was twenty-one years old.

Mr. Srodes married Miss Rebecca Puffenberger, daughter of John Puffenberger, a pioneer in Liberty township, where she was carefully reared and liberally educated. She was a charming young woman who developed into a good and faithful wife, exemplifying all the virtues inherited from a long line of good women who were her forbears. After their marriage they located in Michigan, where they lived seven years and where Mr. Srodes was active in local politics, holding the office of clerk of his township. Coming back to Seneca county, they made a home for themselves in Liberty township, where they have since lived. Mr. Srodes owns the east one-half of the northeast one-fourth of section 28, which he has made a good and productive farm, providing it with up-to-date buildings, implements and appliances for successful cultivation. While doing mixed farming, he gives much attention to stock, which, with Joseph Martin as a partner, he buys and sells quite extensively. He is considered one of the best judges of livestock in his vicinity.

To Solomon E. and Rebecca (Puffenberger) Srodes have been born three sons and two daughters. James married Clara Flummerfelt. Grace married Jesse Day, a telegrapher at Swandes Station, Ohio. Harry married Maurie Morehoff and lives at Gibsonburg, Ohio. Dessie married Lester Zimmerman, of Greenspring, Ohio, a telegrapher in the employ of the Nickel Plate Railway Company. Dada is a member of Mr. and Mrs. Srodes' household. Mr. Srodes is one of the dependable Democrats of Liberty township. He is now ably filling the office of township trustee. His public spirit is such that he may be safely looked to to do anything in his power for the benefit of the township or of the county.

SILAS CRAUN, postmaster at Kansas, Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, was born November 10, 1872, a son of Isaac C. and Catherine (Ash) Craun, who were then farming in Liberty township. Isaac C. Craun was a native of the Buckeye state. His wife was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania. Silas was reared on a farm that his grandfather had entered as government

land. He was carefully instructed in all work pertaining to good farming and during the winters attended public schools near his home until he was about eighteen years old. Then he devoted himself entirely to agricultural pursuits. He lived on the old Craun homestead until 1902, when he removed to the village of Kansas, to take charge of a hotel and livery stable. He was thus employed until 1907, when President Roosevelt appointed him postmaster of Kansas, which position he has since filled to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, and that means of course to the satisfaction of the whole community. In politics he is a Republican, taking a lively and helpful interest in local, state and national affairs. While he has never been offensively partisan he has been active enough in a judicious way so that he has acquired considerable local influence in township affairs. It should be noted in this connection that he was for three years assessor of his township. In connection with his postoffice he operates a small general store.

Mr. Craun married Miss Lottie Schuster, a native of Bettsville. He is a member of Kansas Lodge, No. 183, Knights of Pythias, and of the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Craun has no children.

HARMAN STAIB was born in Seneca township, Seneca county, Ohio, August 13, 1854, a son of Lewis and Catherine (Emich) Staib. His father and mother were both born in Germany, both were brought to the United States and to Seneca county by their parents, and they were married and lived out their lives there. They were the parents of ten children, all but two of whom live in Seneca county.

Harman was reared on a farm and educated in public schools. Early orphaned, he has looked out for himself ever since he was about fifteen years old. For a time he worked for farmers and others by the day or by the month. But he was of the kind that are certain to improve their condition as time goes on, and he has acquired sixty acres of good land in section twenty-one and forty acres in section 16 in Seneca township. Giving his attention to general farming and stockraising, he has prospered well and is considered one of the stanch, forehanded farmers in his part of the county. In politics he is a Democrat. He has ably served on the township school board and has in all ways demonstrated that he possesses great public spirit. In fact, there is no question touching the general advancement of the township about which he is not consulted.

In the spring of 1879 Mr. Staib married Anna C. Fritz, of Seneca township but a native of Tiffin. They have three daughters and one son. Lydia is the wife of John Zuern. Ella married August Stahl. Harman G. and Alma are members of their parents' household. All of them have had good educational advantages. Mr. Staib is a member of the Evangelical church of Seneca township and of its board of trustees. He and his family are generous contributors toward the maintenance of this church and toward the promotion of all its varied works for good.

NEWTON C. THOMAS was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, April 26, 1859, a son of Jacob and Esther (Betts) Thomas, natives of New York, who came in youth to Liberty township with their parents and were married and lived there till late in life. They then moved to Bettsville where they lived out their allotted days.

Mr. Thomas was reared in Liberty township, where he acquired a common school education. He worked by the month for farmers till he was twenty-five years old. He then married Joanna Hull, who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, January 7, 1862, a daughter of Lucien and Martha (Rozell) Hull. Her father was a native of the state of New York and her mother was born in Trenton, New Jersey. They came west to Huron county, and thence removed to Sandusky, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were married December 11, 1884. They located at Van Buren, Michigan, where he was employed on the P. and M. line as a baggage master. After living there eight years he bought his farm at Maple Grove, Seneca county, Ohio, which has since been their home. It consists of ninety-five acres in section 15, Liberty township. Mr. Thomas has good buildings and all modern facilities for successful general farming and devotes himself to a considerable extent to stockraising. He is what is popularly called "a forehanded man," as is evidenced by the fact that he has secured a goodly life insurance.

Mr. Thomas is a Republican in the very best sense of that now comprehensive word, and as such he wields a recognized influence in township affairs. He is the present efficient ditch supervisor and in his administration of that office demonstrates the thoroughness which is a distinguishing characteristic of his mental makeup. As a lifelong resident of Seneca county he is public-spiritedly interested in everything that pertains to its advancement and prosperity.

CHARLES E. FEASEL.—One of Liberty township's substantial and well known farmers is Charles E. Feasel, who owns and operates some one hundred and thirty-eight and a half acres of the land entered originally by his grandfather in 1829. This George Feasel, the founder of the family in Ohio, came to the state in 1821. He moved to Franklin county and then back to Seneca county in 1829, from his native state, Virginia, and entered the southwest one-fourth of section 15, Liberty township, living upon this for the remainder of his life. He became prominent in local affairs and is still remembered by some of the older generation. His demise occurred in 1886.

Mr. Feasel was born June 24, 1863, in Jackson township, Seneca county, his parents being John and Rebecca (Stahl) Feasel. After his marriage the father moved from his parents' estate to Jackson township and there followed the vocation of a farmer until his death, which occurred in January, 1885. To this worthy couple were born seven children, five of whom survive at the present day: Charles E., William F., John L., Ervin E. and Ester A. Mr. Feasel gained his education in the district school, learned



farming in the school of practical experience, and showed such marked aptitude in this honorable vocation that he chose it for his life work. After his marriage he removed to the farm upon which he still resides and which, as previously mentioned, is a part of his grandfather's property, and which has in consequence borne the name of Feasel ever since it was entered. Mr. Feasel has the original deed signed by Andrew Jackson. He engages in general farming and is also prominent in public affairs, having served as a member of the school board, is township treasurer, and at present is one of the township trustees. Politically he subscribes to the policies and principles of the Republican party and believes it to be one of the duties of good citizenship to keep in touch with current affairs and all matters affecting in any way the public welfare.

On the 19th day of March, 1885, Mr. Feasel took as his bride Mary Millhine, of Jackson township, and to them nine children have been born, eight surviving at the present day. They are by name: Irvin, Harvey, deceased, Cora, Alverdie, Ethel, Belvia, Gladys, Harmon and Wilfred. Mr. and Mrs. Feasel are consistent members of the United Brethren church and play an active part in its affairs, the former being trustee, class leader and Sunday school superintendent and giving valuable service in these several capacities.

JOHN P. WANNEMENT.—Noteworthy among the enterprising and skillful agriculturists of Seneca county is John P. Wannement, who is industriously engaged in the prosecution of a calling, upon which the support and wealth of our nation so largely depends, in Clinton township, where he owns a well improved and valuable farm. A son of August Wannement, he was born October 31, 1839, in Big Spring township, Seneca county. Born and reared in Belgium, August Wannement there married Catherine Sosson, a native of the same country. He was a man of culture and an accomplished musician. Emigrating with his family to this country in 1838, he came directly to Seneca county, Ohio, and settled in Big Spring township. He was for a few years employed as a music teacher, but afterward devoted his attention to the improvement of the land which he had purchased, being there engaged in general farming until his death, August 16, 1856, at a comparatively early age. His wife survived him, passing away in 1884. Of the seven children born of their union, four are living, namely: John P., Philemenda, Victoria and Joseph.

Brought up on the home farm, John P. Wannement obtained the rudiments of his education in the schools of his native district, completing his studies in a French school at Louisville, Stark county, Ohio. Familiar with the various branches of agriculture from his youth up, he naturally chose the independent occupation of a farmer, and in his operations has met with satisfactory success. Coming to Clinton township in 1880, Mr. Wannement purchased eighty acres of land on section 15, and in its care and improvement has exercised skill and judgment, his estate

being now one of the most attractive in the vicinity. In addition to farming he carried on the threshing business for about thirty years in Seneca county, beginning the occupation when only twenty years old.

Throughout his many years of residence in Clinton township, Mr. Wannement has ever evinced an intelligent interest in local progress and improvement, and has served acceptably in positions of trust and responsibility, for six years being a township trustee and for six years rendering valuable and appreciative service as a county commissioner. He is a straightforward Democrat in politics, an active worker in the interests of his party.

Mr. Wannement married, in October, 1862, Margaret Pecher, who was born in Seneca township, Ohio, April 17, 1842. Nine children have blessed their union, namely: Joseph, Charles, Stephen, Just, deceased, Leo, John, Pius, Mary J., deceased, and Bertha C. Mr. and Mrs. Wannement have thirty grandchildren and are very proud of their descendants.

SAMUEL T. WANNAMAKER was born in Piqua, Ohio, in December, 1838, a son of Isaac and Catharine (Billig) Wannamaker. His branch of the family of Wannamaker is related to that of Hon. John Wannamaker of Philadelphia, once postmaster general of the United States. Isaac Wannamaker was brought by his parents to Seneca county in 1849, when he was about eleven years old. The family settled in Seneca township, where his parents both died, his mother on the 14th of March, 1911, at the ripe old age of ninety-nine years. Isaac Wannamaker was a religious man and his influence upon the community was always for good. His widow, who was born in 1812, became the mother of eleven children, only four of whom survived in 1910. These are Samuel T., Caroline, Joel and Sylvester B., all of whom live in Seneca township.

Samuel T. Wannamaker was educated in public schools and was taught the practical side of farming by his father, whom he helped during his boyhood and youth. He was for a short time in business in Tiffin. He married Amanda Hustsberger, who died six months after their wedding, and he has never been inclined to marry again. His mother and sister welcomed him to their home at the time of his bereavement and he has lived there ever since. For fifteen years he operated a threshing machine in Seneca and nearby townships. He owns a fine farm in Seneca and Hopewell townships and gives attention to mixed farming and stockraising. A Democrat in his political affiliations, he was as such repeatedly elected township treasurer, holding the office continuously fifteen years, till his retirement in 1910. He is a member and a trustee of the Lutheran church at Tiffin and a liberal supporter of its varied interests. As a citizen he is progressive and public spirited ready at all times to encourage in the most practical way any movement which in his opinion promises benefit to any considerable number of his fellow citizens.

HARRY W. TOMB.—Secure in the enjoyment of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances and figuring as one of the enterprising business men of the locality is Harry W. Tomb, who was born December 11, 1875. The founder of the family in Ohio was Benjamin Tomb, grandfather of him whose name initiates this review and a native of the state of Pennsylvania, who came farther west to the Buckeye state in the earlier part of the nineteenth century. In his native state he had made his livelihood as the driver of a canal boat, but after making his new location he settled upon the Spicer section, securing as his own two hundred acres of land and occupying his time in clearing it, erecting a home and cultivating the virgin soil. In his later years he removed to Tiffin, where he became an important factor in civic life as president of the First National Bank, of which he was one of the founders. He was a Republican, staunch in his political convictions, and he gave efficient service as a member of the school board. He married his second wife in Tiffin, she having been a Leonard previous to her marriage, and it is of this union that Mr. Tomb is a descendant. There were children named as follows: Rebecca, Thomas B., Benjamin F., father of the subject, George and Harry.

Mr. Tomb's father, Benjamin F., was born in the month of April, 1845. He resided under the home roof until his marriage, receiving his education in the district schools, at the university at Granville, Ohio, and under the tutelage of his father becoming well grounded in the various departments of agriculture. At the time of the Civil war he joined the one hundred day service as a member of the Ohio volunteer infantry. He went into camp with his regiment at Harper's Ferry, was there taken prisoner and was finally exchanged. At the age of twenty-three he established a household of his own by his marriage to Miss Nora Benham, who was born August 5, 1845. She was of English descent. To this union were born five children, George, Mary B., Frank, Leonard and Harry W.

Benjamin Tomb, like his father, is a Republican and a member of the Baptist church. He also holds membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his worthy wife reside upon a farm near Bloomville and are known throughout the community as public spirited and altruistic citizens.

Harry W. Tomb, at the age of twenty-seven years, laid the foundation of a happy married life by his marriage to Miss J. G. Dimick, of Bellevue. Mrs. Tomb was born October 10, 1878, the daughter of Weston and Mary M. (Derr) Dimick, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively. They reside in Bellevue, where the father is in the employ of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway Company. He was formerly with the Eastern Ohio Gas Company.

For nine years Mr. Tomb has represented the U. P. T. Company of Cleveland, and for three years he was on the road for this company. He is an enterprising and trustworthy gentleman and enjoys the confidence of employers and customers. He and his wife are the parents of a son, named Webb D. and born November 21, 1907. Mr. Tomb is independent in politics, believing in



the freedom of thought which allows a voter to support the man and the measure he is convinced is the best. He and his wife attend the Congregational church.

The Tomb family has been long in America and has a most interesting family history. One of the first of the name whose life record has been preserved was Jacob Tomb, a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He was a native of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, of German extraction, and he settled in the northern part of one of Ohio's counties in 1786. Six months later his residence there was successfully contested by Indians and he took refuge in Cumberland county, where he remained several years. His son Philip was the progenitor of the subject and he came with his father, and the rest of the family made a difficult journey to the vicinity of Pine Creek, Pennsylvania, and there made their home. An account of their interesting pioneer experiences is given in the sketch of Mr. Tomb's brother, Leonard B., which appears on other pages of this work. Philip's son was Benjamin, the first, grandfather of Mr. Tomb. Men of fine, dauntless character and unflagging energy, they did much to pave the way for latter-day prosperity.

MAURICE R. MENCH, cashier of the Bettsville Banking Company, was born at Mifflinburg, Union county, Pennsylvania, July 13, 1873, a son of John R. and Susan (Hassenplug) Mench. His parents were of German extraction but were natives of Union county, Pennsylvania. He was reared on his father's farm, as a farmer's boy of all work, and gained a practical education in public schools. In due time he became a student in the Central Pennsylvania College at New Berlin, Pennsylvania, and later took a complete course in the Pennsylvania State Normal School at Lockhaven, Clinton county, Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in 1894, with the degree of B. E. For a year after his graduation he was a teacher in the high school at Hartleton, Union county, Pennsylvania, of which he was also principal. In 1895 he accepted a position as bookkeeper in the Commercial Bank at Tiffin, Ohio. After being employed thus for seven years he was for two years a farmer. In the summer of 1905 he was conspicuously instrumental in the organization of the Bettsville Banking Company, which operates under an authorized capitalization of twenty-five thousand dollars. George I. Garn was its first president; Elijah Voorhies, its first vice-president; A. A. Miller, its first secretary; and Maurice R. Mench, its first cashier. At this time George I. Garn is its president; Dr. M. E. Wilson, its vice-president; Maurice R. Mench, its cashier. Its directors are J. E. Shaw, U. N. Keller, M. N. Mowry, N. B. Flack, H. H. Geyer, C. L. Park, Adam Gamertsfelder, Frank Kenan, Dr. M. E. Wilson, Elijah Voorhies and George I. Garn. Mr. Mench, who, as has been seen, has been connected with banking interests during most of his active years, brought to his duties with this concern an intimate knowledge of financial and commercial conditions and requirements which has enabled him to take rank as one of the best and safest practical bankers in his part of the state.

Mr. Mench married Miss Rose E. Stief, of Carey, Wyandot county, Ohio, who was educated there and at the seminary at Glendale. She has borne her husband a son and a daughter—J. Rishel in 1900 and Catherine E. in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Mench live in a fine home on Main street in Bettsville. Of this he is the owner, also of a fine improved farm of eighty acres in section 16, Liberty township. In politics he is a Republican of deep and abiding interest in all public questions and especially helpful to the growth and prosperity of Bettsville. Mr. and Mrs. Mench are communicants of the Presbyterian church at Tiffin, to the various interests of which they are loyally helpful.

LOUIS JONES is one of the well known and enterprising citizens of Kansas, Seneca county. He is an exponent of both manufacturing and commercial interests, for he is a salesman of cement and cement block and a dealer in building supplies, while at the same time engaging in the manufacture of cement posts. He is one of the younger generation of progressive business men, his birth having occurred in Liberty township April 18, 1880, his parents being John A. and Emmeline (Flack) Jones. The father, who is living in Kansas, Liberty township, where he is retired, is a native of Pennsylvania and is a veteran of the Civil war, he having served during the conflict between the states as a member of Company B, Fifty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He moved here in the year 1907. The mother was born in Liberty township. Mr. Jones is the youngest in order of birth in a family of five children, the other members of the family being: John H., Reel L., Byron, and one sister, deceased.

Mr. Jones was unfortunate enough to lose his mother when he was about a year old, and he was reared by his grandmother. His early years were passed in Fostoria and it was there that he received his education, graduating from the high school with the class of 1900. His education was interrupted at the time of the Spanish-American war by his enlistment with Company D of the Sixth Ohio, this being one of the regiments which were sent to Cuba, and there he saw four months' service. After the declaration of peace and the disbanding of the army, he returned to the home town, finished his schooling, meanwhile living with his father. Soon after this he embarked in business, identifying himself with the cement and cement block industry, his trade being largely in Seneca county. The manufacturing plant of which he is the head is situated in Kansas, Liberty township.

On June 20, 1905, Mr. Jones was united in marriage to Amelia Kimmet, daughter of Adam F. and Eva (Hammer) Kimmet, of Liberty township, and they are the parents of two sons: Melvin, aged five and Walter, aged three. Mr. Jones owns the attractive home on Jacob street.

The subject is a loyal Republican and he and his family belong to the Catholic church of Kansas, Ohio. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

EDWARD T. NAYLOR.—The name of Naylor is one which has for a great many years been associated in the most honorable and prominent fashion with the affairs of Seneca county. Edward T. Naylor, a retired hardware merchant and identified with the Tiffin National Bank, has spent fifty-four years within the boundaries of this progressive Ohio city. Not only does this gentleman combine in himself all the fine qualities which make for ideal citizenship in the quieter walks of life, but although a very young man at the time the first guns were fired at Fort Sumter he was one of the earliest to offer his services for the preservation of the integrity of the Union, and few can look back upon a more interesting Civil war record.

Mr. Naylor is a native of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred at the village of Alexandria, Licking county, Ohio, March 22, 1843. Until his ninth year he resided with his parents upon their farming property near Alexandria, but when he was about that age they removed to Newark, Licking county, and there resided for one year. They then went farther afield, taking up their residence in Berlin, Wisconsin, where they resided until 1857, or, more accurately, Mr. Naylor's tenure of residence ended with that year, when in October he came to make his home with his brother, the late J. N. Naylor, who at that time was in the hardware business under the firm name of J. N. Naylor & Brother. The subject had attended the schools of the various places in which his early years had been spent and he continued his studies in the schools of Tiffin, literally leaving his desk in the school room to shoulder a musket in the defense of the nation. He became a member of the first organization of Seneca county, Company A, Eighth Ohio Volunteer Regiment. The first enlistment was for ninety days and at the termination of that period he re-enlisted and served until the close of the war. His regiment was incorporated in the Army of the Potomac, under General Winfield Scott Hancock. The Eighth Ohio found itself in the thickest of the fight and participated in seventy-six battles and skirmishes, among them some of the greatest engagements of the war, such as Gettysburg, Antietam, Fredericksburg, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania and Cold Harbor. At one engagement in Virginia he was captured by Mosby and prior to that he had several hair-breadth escapes from guerrillas. For a short time he was United States mail agent and upon being attacked upon one occasion he made his escape in the following manner. He was the bearer of about twenty thousand letters and a large amount of money which the soldiers were sending home to their families. As he was making his way through a narrow pass between the two armies, he was suddenly covered by the guerrillas. Believing himself at their mercy he would gladly have surrendered, but, as he himself expresses it, the mule that conveyed him "thought different." The mule started to run and as he did so some of the guerrillas' shot found lodgment in Mr. Naylor's shoulders and also in the anatomy of the mule, which increased the speed of the latter to record-breaking point, and the pursuers were soon outdistanced. Thus a remarkable escape was effected by a member of that much ma-



ligned species of the brute creation. On the occasion of the above-mentioned capture by Mosby, Mr. Naylor was released only upon condition of his turning over his horse and equipage. His captors were also robbing him of his clothing when he made a personal appeal to Captain Thompson, who restored to him all of his personal effects, among them a solid gold watch in a hunting case, the same being still in his possession.

The Eighth Ohio Regiment for meritorious service at Gettysburg with others was chosen to go to New York to quell the draft riot in August, 1863. At Gettysburg the company to which Mr. Naylor belonged lost fifty per cent of its members. He was mustered out at Cleveland, July 13, 1864, and thereupon returned to Tiffin. In the "Reminiscences of Gettysburg" an interesting narrative by Mr. Naylor published in a Washington, D. C., paper, is related that the sharp shooters of the advance guard of the Rebels were located along Emmetsburg Road and General Hancock commanded General Carroll to send one of his regiments down that way. The Eighth Ohio, of which Mr. Naylor was a member, was chosen. In the battle his particular company served through the night of the second day until the charge of Pickett's command. Mr. Pickett was in front of the charge and would have been captured, but owing to the cannonading, which was so heavy it made great breeches in the charging party, they would close up to it and pour in cross fire. The regiment brought in 13,005 battle flags and at Antietam Mr. Naylor's regiment captured some three hundred of these banners. At the battle of Fredericksburg on December 13, 1862, the regiment lost thirteen color bearers, the last one sinking the staff in the ground as he fell, and when the smoke of the conflict at last cleared away Old Glory was still waving.

One of Mr. Naylor's friends, Tommy Connor, when but a lad sought to join the army, but owing to his youth he was refused admission to the ranks. Upon the journey Master Tommy was hidden by Mr. Naylor under the seat in the railway coach, was fed by the soldiers, who thought it a huge joke and rather admired the lad for his plucky persistence, and he remained with the army until after Gettysburg, when so many of his heroes were slain and the real meaning of war so impressed upon him that he was willing to return home. While in the army young Connor sent eight hundred dollars back to Tiffin by Mr. Naylor, who was on leave. He subsequently became a famous speculator of Joplin, Missouri, but he did not forget his well loved Tiffin and gave the city one hundred thousand dollars, also donating an equal amount to Joplin.

Soon after returning to Tiffin Mr. Naylor began upon the business career which was to prove so successful, associating himself with the firm of J. N. Naylor Brothers, hardware merchants. Mr. Naylor continued thus engaged for a great many years and it is doubtless due to his executive ability, sound judgment and ability to inspire confidence that the business became one of the most substantial and prosperous of any to be found throughout the length and breadth of Seneca county. He retired in 1899 from the active duties and management of the concern.

On the 14th day of February, 1871, Mr. Naylor was united in

marriage to Miss Louisa Pettinger, a representative of one of the fine families of the locality, born June 2, 1842, and a sister of the wife of the late J. N. Naylor. This happy union was further cemented by the birth of two children: Edna Marie, born December 27, 1874, the wife of Thomas Wylie, of Ripley, Ohio; and Earl Benjamin, born December 4, 1878, residing with the subject and associated with the banking house founded by the late J. N. Naylor, now under the caption of the Tiffin National Bank.

Mrs. Naylor's father was the late Judge Benjamin Pettinger, who was one of those pilgrims from Fredericksburg, Maryland, to Seneca county in the '20s. When he first made the journey across country he was accompanied by his wife, and he subsequently returned to bring back that lady's sisters, one of them, Martha, becoming the wife of the late General William H. Gibson, one of the country's greatest orators and a noted veteran of the Civil war. A famous monument has been erected to his memory. Another of the sisters married John D. Breslin, who founded the Tiffin *Advertiser* and later was elected state treasurer, succeeding Mr. Gibson.

Mr. Naylor was a member of the Gibson Memorial Committee and also of the Ohio Antietam Battlefield Committee. Naturally he takes a great interest in his comrades of other days, and is a Grand Army man, having been one of the organizers of Gibson Post, No. 31, G. A. R. In politics Mr. Naylor gives allegiance to the Republican party, his suffrage having ever been at the disposal of the Grand Old Party. The Naylor residence is a handsome and commodious one, situated at 200 Monroe street and it is one of the favorite social centers of the city, its hospitality and attractiveness being proverbial.

Earl Benjamin Naylor was graduated from the higher department of the Tiffin public schools with the class of 1897. He supplemented this educational discipline with attendance at Ohio Wesleyan College at Delaware. After finishing his education he went to St. Louis, where he became associated with the Emerson Electrical Manufacturing Company, and remained in that city for four years. His ability was of a high order and he was sent by them to New York city and there placed in charge of their eastern business, continuing with this important trust for two years. But attractions of his home place never grew dim with him and he returned to Tiffin, becoming associated, as previously mentioned, with the Tiffin National Bank. He has large interests in this important institution. His wife before her marriage was Miss Beckley, youngest member of the family of John M. Beckley, a native of Germany, and one of those loyal adopted sons of America who gave her valliant service in her day of need. Mr. Beckley was a member of the Seventy-second Ohio Regiment. Mr. Naylor and his wife have one young daughter, Jane Cornelia.

The subject's daughter, Mrs. Wylie, and her husband have two children, William Naylor, born October 14, 1907, and Emma Louisa, born January 15, 1906.

ELMER E. FEASEL, one of Liberty township's most progressive agriculturists, has been a resident of this township for only about three years, for he came here in the year 1907. For twenty years previously he had been identified with agricultural interests of Jackson township and preceded this by valuable service to the educational cause of Seneca county, having for thirteen years been a teacher in the district schools. — He was born in Liberty township, near Centre, on September 9, 1861, and is the son of Alexander and Mary (Turner) Feasel, who were natives of Fairfield and Seneca counties, respectively. He came from Fairfield county, Ohio, in the year 1837 and became identified with the agricultural life of the county. He passed on to his reward in the year 1881, but the death of the mother occurred in June, 1863, when the subject was a child only a little under two years of age. He was reared by an uncle and aunt, Jacob and Sarah Feasel, citizens of Seneca county. He received his preliminary education in the district schools and in the meantime engaged in various occupations, saving sufficient money to pursue a supplementary course in the college at Ada, Ohio. Receiving a license to teach when he was twenty years of age, he at once secured a position in the county schools and for thirteen years was recognized as one of the most excellent and enlightened of local instructors. He followed farming in the summer and eventually found it expedient to devote his entire attention to that industry. He purchased a property in Jackson township and there lived for twenty years, engaging in general farming and meeting with unqualified success, but in 1907 he changed his residence to Liberty township where he is the possessor of a tract of eighty fertile and well situated acres. He likewise owns one hundred and two acres in Jackson township.

In 1885 Mr. Feasel was united in marriage to Lenora Bower, born in Liberty township in 1866, the daughter of Samuel and Mary (Lyberger) Bower. She died October 4, 1888, without issue. On the 12th day of September, 1889, he married Leona Gilson, daughter of Jeremiah and Eliza (McLaughlin) Gilson of Jackson township. They have two daughters, Bessie, aged twenty, and Cora, aged twelve.

Mr. Feasel is Democratic in his political convictions and has been very active in the work of the party, his support and endorsement being sought as a valuable adjunct. He is a member of Kansas Lodge, No. 405, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he holds the office of past noble grand, and he also has membership in the lodge of Rebekas, No. 171, Mrs. Feasel and their daughter Bessie likewise holding membership in this organization.

In addition to general farming Mr. Feasel engages in stock raising. He must be counted one of the self made men, all that he has made of himself being through his own efforts.

ERNEST A. WETZEL.—The battle for life and success is no longer physical; it is mental. And in order to maintain one's own in this busy world a practical education is essential, and for those who cannot afford or who do not wish to go to college the public school



is the best substitute that we have. Teaching, formerly a make-shift to fill in odd time, is now a profession, commanding the best talents of men and women who would have as easily become good lawyers or good doctors as good teachers. These thoughts are suggested by the busy and useful career of the subject of this notice, who has been a teacher since 1896.

Ernest A. Wetzel was born in Seneca township, Seneca county, Ohio, August 19, 1877, a son of Jacob and Barbara M. (Ruehle) Wetzel. His parents, natives of Germany, were brought to America by their parents. They married in Seneca county. The father was a baker by trade and in the Civil war served the Federal government in that capacity. He was the father of five children, all of whom except Ernest A. are dead. The immediate subject of this notice was reared on the farm which is now his home and obtained his education in public schools and at Ada University, Ada, Ohio. At the last mentioned institution he pursued the regular scientific course and a special course in civil engineering. He began teaching when he was about nineteen years old and has since made that his life work. He is at this time employed in the McCutcheonville, Ohio, schools.

On January 1, 1910, Mr. Wetzel married Miss Myrtle Gruble, of McCutcheonville, Ohio. They are members of the Lutheran church of that town and he is a member of the McCutcheonville Masonic lodge (Number 314) and was for two years its presiding officer. He is identified also with Crawford Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of Carey, Ohio. A Democrat politically, he has been elected and re-elected township clerk of Seneca township and has served in the office about five years. He has also represented his township in the Democratic county central committee. A man of broad views and of much public spirit, he is a progressive citizen, helpful to all his fellow citizens, of whom they are proud and whom they like to honor. His fine farm, in section twenty-one, Seneca township, comprises forty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Wetzel are the parents of one child, a daughter named Margaret Clementine, born on the 14th of February, 1911.

FRED O. VOORHIES, was born in Sandusky county, Ohio, September 3, 1880, a son of O. D. and Sophia (Stahl) Voorhies, both of whom are living in Bettsville. He was reared on his father's farm and attended public schools in his home district. When he was about eighteen years old he became a student at a business college in Toledo, from which he was duly graduated in 1900. He came from the institution well grounded not only in accounting but in the general principles of merchandising. Thus equipped to enter the field of modern business, he established a hardware store and plumbing shop at Bettsville, with his brother W. B. Voorhies as his partner. They enlarged their facilities from time to time as their business increased until their concern became one of the best of its kind in the county. Recently the Voorhies Company combined with the H. W. Auld dry goods store, the style of the firm becoming the Bettsville Mercantile Company, and this is the leading mercantile establishment of Bettsville.

Mr. Voorhies married Miss Dora Soloman of Sandusky county, Ohio, and they have a son, Vaughn Voorhies, who was born January, 1904. In his political affiliation Mr. Voorhies is Republican. He takes an active and public interest in local, state and national affairs. He is not without considerable local influence in his party. Without any expressed wish on his part that political honors should be conferred upon him he was in the fall of 1909 elected clerk of his township, an office which he is filling with signal ability and success greatly to the admiration of his fellow citizens of Liberty township irrespective of party differences. He has brought to this work in this capacity the same conspicuous talent that has made for his success in his private business and is hailed throughout the township as a public official who has the welfare of the community always in mind.

LEONARD B. TOMB.—Much of the prosperity of Seneca county depends upon her agricultural element, and one of the ablest exponents of the great basic industry is Leonard B. Tomb, whose property is located in Pleasant township. Here he engages in general farming and stock raising and has met with success in both departments. Mr. Tomb was born October 7, 1871, and is the son of Benjamin F. and Leonora (Benham) Tomb, the family originally coming from Connecticut. The grandfather, Benjamin Tomb, was the first of the family to come to Ohio and he became one of the leading factors in the life of Seneca county. Benjamin Tomb's grandfather was Jacob Tomb and his father, Philip Tomb, the latter born March 22, 1782, in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, near the present site of Harrisburg, both of his parents being of German extraction. He settled on Pine Creek in that state in later life. When Philip was a child his father in 1786 moved the family up the Susquehanna river, about ninety miles, making the journey by keel boats, this mode of transporation being necessary from the fact that there were no roads. He had hired some men to build a house for him on his new tract and he expected that a shelter would be waiting his wife and little ones, but the men, dishonestly, had not completed the contract.

The journey was begun November 1, 1791, and on the keel boat was stowed not only the family and a few household goods and provisions, but also iron to be used in the construction of a mill. When they reached Pine Creek the water was not sufficiently deep to float a boat, and he had to secure canoes to complete the trip. The remainder of the progress was tedious in the extreme, it requiring six days to go five miles. When on November 20 Jacob and his family reached their destination what was their despair to find the house quite incomplete. The walls were up and covered with a roof, but there were no chimney, doors nor windows. They managed to pass the night there, although nearly perishing with the cold, and the house was finished in a manner in the next two days. They plastered it and made it otherwise habitable and on the 25th they began work on the mill, splitting and hewing the logs and building a race and dam. By March 1 the mill was finished. As it was three miles to the nearest mill, in the meantime they had to make their meal by pounding their corn in a mortar.

Philip, in his day, had many adventures, such as were the lot of the pioneer, and he related many interesting hunting, fishing and snake stories. Game was plentiful and included panthers, bears, elk, deer, bears in particular being very plentiful. The father, who was a great sportsman, made a wager to catch an elk alive, the stake being two hundred and fifty dollars, and he really accomplished this daring feat, which made him a hero among all the hunters of the locality. The elk, which was the first one caught in Pennsylvania, was sixteen hands high and its horns were five and one-half feet across, with eleven branches. The streams were filled with trout, these finny creatures then, as now, being considered a rare delicacy. Rattle snakes were far too numerous and made travel very dangerous. Upon one occasion a party when going up the river found the shore so alive with rattlers that they could not make a landing and were obliged to anchor their boat in the stream where they remained over night.

Members of the Tomb family still reside in the vicinity of Pine Creek and in Philadelphia and Pittsburg. The branch of the family with which this review is most concerned came to Ohio, first locating in Warren county and then removing to the Spicer section in this county, where two of their descendants, Leonard and Harry Tomb, reside and are influential and admirable citizens, worthy of the stanch stock from which they spring.

Benjamin Tomb, grandfather of the subject, married Ann Blackwell. She was the mother of R. H. Watson, mentioned elsewhere in this volume. The father of R. H. Watson, Thomas Wood Watson, was ninety years of age when he died, after a life of great worth and usefulness. His funeral was conducted by the Rev. Dr. D. D. Bigger, assisted by Rev. J. H. Steele. Dr. Bigger read an excellent sketch of the venerable gentleman, which is in the keeping of his son Robert H. Watson. Extract is made from said sketch with only such paraphrase as is deemed expedient for the purposes of a compilation of this nature. He spoke of his life as a simple and unassuming one and that he was tenderly loved in the home and as a friend and neighbor. He was respected universally and remained modest and unobtrusive as a child even to his ripened old age. He was marvellously free from glitter, tinsel and pretense and he was cordial, genial and never failing in courtesy. His nature was such as to lead him into the quieter paths of living and he achieved all that was of genuine worth in life. Thrown upon his own resources when in his teens he determined to have an education, and to secure the training he desired he toiled early and late. After graduating at the academy he chose law as a profession and when fully prepared met with a bitter disappointment. His health failed and his physician told him that if he hoped to live he must give up all thought of practicing law and take up work that would keep him in the open air. He obeyed this counsel and took the life of a farmer. He finally acquired a competency, every dollar of which represented industry and toil. Many farms were cleared by his hands and form the valuable and attractive homes of his descendants today. He



was a man of strong constitution and though twice stricken with cholera, recovered, his recovery being looked upon as a miracle. He was a man of pronounced views in religion and politics. For two score years he was an elder in the Presbyterian church, in which for over fifty years he was a member, as were his forefathers in this country and those before them in Scotland and Ireland.

R. H. Watson, son of the foregoing, married a daughter of Rasselas R. Titus, a native of Litchfield, Connecticut. He was born June 21, 1819, of Erastus and Lucinda (Wilerman) Titus, of the Nutmeg state, and came to Adams township, this county, in 1833, with his parents. Here Erastus died in 1835 and his widow in 1846. They were the parents of three sons and two daughters, namely: Celina, Wilhelmina, Miles M., Rasselas R. and Hulda. The father of Erastus was in youth and middle age a sea faring man, but subsequently abandoned that life and engaged in agriculture in the state of New York. He was a Democrat and a Mason and received the title of captain on account of having given some time to drilling the militia in the Empire state. His grandson, Rasselas R., in his younger days engaged in job work. He lived a short time in Michigan and in 1838 went to Illinois, where he was employed by the government to assist in removing the Indians from Council Bluffs, Iowa. He returned to Seneca county in 1839 and for some time worked by the day or month. In 1840 he bought land in Indiana, selling the same one year later and purchasing property in Pleasant township. He prospered and at his death owned nearly one thousand acres of land. In 1859 he was elected to the state equalization board, and he was a member of the state legislature for two terms, serving from 1861 to 1865. He was married in 1844 to Elvira S. Clark, of this township, she having been born in 1820 in New York. Her parents eventually located in Huron county, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Titus became the parents of four daughters, namely: Augusta, wife of F. J. Fry, of Tiffin; Celina M., wife of Lorenzo L. Abbott, of Tiffin; Flora, wife of O. S. Watson, of Tiffin; and Lillie, wife of R. H. Watson. Further mention of the history of the Tomb family and its connections appears on other pages of this work, additional data appearing in the sketch of the subject's brother, Harry W. Tomb.

To return to the immediate subject of this review, Leonard B. Tomb resided with his parents until the age of eighteen years, at that time going to the city of Cleveland. He had received a good education, the first of it in the school house located on his father's farm and the latter part in Heidelberg University. Upon arriving in the Forest City he found employment with the Standard Oil Company and spent four years with another company. Subsequently he went to Akron, where he was engaged with the Akron Printing & Paper Company, and after a commercial career, varied and successful though it was, he returned to Seneca county and resumed that occupation with which he had been familiar in his youth and of which he stands at present as one of the best representatives, keeping in touch as he does with the newest ideas and believing in the application of science to this most important of industries.

Mr. Tomb was married October 1, 1896, to Miss Cora May  
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Miller, the daughter of John W. and Mettie E. (Brown) Miller. They have one child, a daughter, born May 27, 1901, and through her mother she is a descendant of Captain Perry of the battle of Lake Erie fame. Mr. and Mrs. Tomb are members of the Congregational church and the former casts his vote with the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in Akron, Ohio.

Mr. Tomb's mother, Leonora F. Benham, was one of a family of ten children. One of her brothers, General W. D. Benham, had charge of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry in Cuba at the time of the Spanish-American war. Previous to that he had command of Fort Logan. George is a business man located in the south. James was connected with the Standard Oil Company and patented certain naphtha refining process. W. W. is a business man of Cleveland. Nora F. and Amelia died young, and Bruce is a sergeant in the regular army.

ELI STRENG is a native of Big Spring township, Seneca county, born April 24, 1856, a son of Frederick and Eliza (Bruner) Streng, of old families of Alsace, Germany, both of whom came as emigrants to the United States. After their marriage, which was celebrated in Tiffin, Mr. and Mrs. Streng located in Big Spring township. Mr. Streng who was a shoemaker by trade and occupation, enlisted for service in the Civil war in the Forty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and followed Sherman in his historic march from Atlanta to the sea. He died in Loudon township in 1908. His wife died in 1907. They were the parents of six children, all of whom are living in 1910. Mary became the wife of Andrew Sharf and lives in Fostoria. Eli, the immediate subject of this sketch, was the second in order of birth. Elizabeth was the third. Catharine married Lewis Manecke, of Loudon township. Anna and George have not married.

When Eli Streng was about seven years of age his parents moved from Big Spring township to Loudon township, and there he was early initiated into the mysteries of farming and attended district schools until he was about thirteen years old. In the course of time he developed into one of the most successful farmers in this vicinity. He now owns a fine farm of sixty-three acres, well improved and fitted up for stock raising, to which he gives attention in connection with mixed farming. He has always taken an active and helpful interest in everything pertaining to the improvement and advancement of the farm and of farm life and has from time to time been a member of important organizations of farmers. In politics he is no less active and public spirited. He is a Republican and the fact that he is the only Republican in his family is worthy of note. It should be noted also that in Loudon township, which usually goes Democratic by about two hundred majority, he was elected ditch supervisor, which office he has filled to the present time so faithfully and efficiently that it would surprise no one if he were re-elected.

In 1897 Mr. Streng married Miss Amelia Peter, who was born in Loudon township October 15, 1858, and died there in 1902.

She bore her husband one child, whom they named James H. Streng. Mr. Streng is a regular attendant upon the services of the Protestant Reformed church.

JOHN FRUTH was born in Bavaria, Germany, a son of Jacob and Syvillia (Sherdon) Fruth, both natives of Bavaria, the former born in 1812, the latter, in 1818, and they were married in the fatherland. Their son John first saw the light of day June 17, 1851, and the family came to America in 1854 and located near Cleveland, Ohio. About two years later they removed to Seneca county, where the parents lived out the remainder of their days. The father died in 1872, the mother some years later. They were members of the German Evangelical church. Mr. Fruth owned at one time two hundred and forty-eight acres of land which eventually he sold.

When his parents took up their residence in Seneca township John Fruth was about five years old. He grew up on his father's farm, doing such work as a boy can do in such environments and attending district schools a good deal of the time until he was about fifteen years old. He helped his father, as was the custom at that time in the country round about, until he attained his majority, then learned the carpenter's trade, at which he was employed for some years.

Mr. Fruth married Magdalena Mergenthaler, a native of Loudon township, and they became the parents of thirteen children, twelve of whom are living in 1910. Mary S., is deceased; Jacob F., lives in Fostoria; William, in Loudon township; David, in Hancock county, Ohio; Ida, is the wife of Henry Zuern, of Big Spring township; Christina, married George Heilman; Daniel L., lives in Loudon township; Clara F., is the wife of Jacob Reiss, of that township; Abraham, Sarah A., John C., Clarence H. and Lena M. have not married.

John Fruth owns seventy acres of farm land in section 5 Big Spring township, and one hundred and thirty acres in section 32, Loudon township. The last mentioned property, on which he makes his home, he has developed into a fine farm, well stocked and having good improvements. In the days of farmers' granges he was active in grange work and was master granger of his home organization. He now adheres to the Democratic party, taking an active interest in its local work. He has served faithfully and efficiently as township assessor and has twice been elected a member of the school board. He was at one time a county committeeman and is now filling the office of assessor. He is influential not only politically but socially and in business circles and is recognized as a public spirited man who has the best interests of his community close to his heart.

GEORGE W. HENRY, carpenter and painter and trustee of Loudon township, was born in Big Spring township, Seneca county, June 12, 1855, a son of Daniel and Anna (Simmons) Henry. When he was about a year and a half old his parents moved from Big Spring township to Loudon township. There he worked on



his father's farm, attending district schools as opportunity was afforded him, until after he was eighteen years old. He then found work, from the earnings of which he was enabled to contribute to the support of his mother, to whom he was devotedly attached. His mother died on the 20th of November, 1909. He married Miss Mary Huff, June 21, 1881, who died August 6, 1907, sincerely mourned by all who had known her. Mrs. Henry bore her husband several children: John W.; Clara, who is the wife of Merle Hall; Della, who became Mrs. Ed Watts; Mary and Augusta.

At the age of seventeen years while still with his mother, Mr. Henry took up the carpenter's trade, at which he was successful and to which he added that of painter, frequently undertaking contract work of more or less importance. He owns three acres of fine land a mile and a half east of Fostoria, on the Tiffin and Fostoria road. In his political affiliations Mr. Henry is a staunch Democrat. He has since early manhood taken a deep interest in all public questions affecting his township, county, state and country. Though Loudon township usually goes Republican by about three hundred majority, he was in the fall of 1909 elected township trustee by a vote that was highly creditable to his personal popularity. He was for seven years assessor of Loudon township. His administration of the affairs of these offices have commended him to the good opinion of his fellow citizens of all political parties. All mortals are liable to reverses of one kind or another and despite his general success Mr. Henry is no exception to the rule, as was proven in January, 1904, when his right hand was torn off by a corn husker while he was at work on the farm of E. A. Dillon.

JAMES STULTZ is one of several sturdy Republicans of Loudon township, Seneca county, who though politically influential are not aspirants for public office. He is a successful farmer and stock-raiser, a man of prominence in his community. He has never married and his sister is his housekeeper. Mr. Stultz was born at Tiffin, the county seat of justice, March 9, 1850, a son of Isaac and Martha (Dailey) Stultz. Isaac Stultz was born in Frederick county, Maryland. Martha Dailey was a daughter of Samuel Dailey, who was a native of Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and a pioneer at Tiffin. Mr. Dailey operated a tannery in that city, at the northeast corner of Market and Monroe streets, where the building of the Tiffin fire department has since been erected. He ended his days at Tiffin, where he left an enviable name as citizen and business man. Isaac Stultz removed from Tiffin to Loudon township in 1867, when his son, James Stultz, the immediate subject of this brief notice, was about seventeen years old, and located on a farm of fifty and one half acres, which he operated successfully until his death. James Stultz was reared as a farmer's boy of all work and gained his early education in the public schools at Tiffin. When his father's estate came to be settled he bought the interest in it of the other heirs and, taking possession of the old home farm, has since operated it with much gratifying success, giving his atten-

tion to general farming and stock raising. The place is well improved and is in all respects up-to-date, provided with good buildings and the best machinery and appliances. Its owner is known throughout the county as a careful, well informed, progressive farmer who keeps abreast of the times in everything pertaining to his business and who as a stock raiser takes rank with the best in his vicinity.

CONRAD FRUTH is of German descent, and Frank Fruth, his grandfather in the paternal line, and Jacob Peter, his grandfather in the maternal line, were both born in Germany. The latter came to the United States in 1833 and was a pioneer in Loudon township. There the former located in 1855. Conrad Fruth was born in that township March 6, 1868, and has lived there continuously to the present time. His parents were Conrad and Mary (Peter) Fruth. He was brought up to be a practical farmer and gained his education in the public schools, in which he studied until he was about sixteen years old. He was then employed as a farm laborer by the man who was later his stepfather. His father died in 1868, the year in which the son was born. In 1890 he rented a farm which he operated until 1905. At that time he had saved about five hundred dollars, with which he was able to negotiate the purchase of one hundred and thirty-six acres in sections 31 and 32, Loudon township, which he has improved until it is a fine farm well stocked and with the best appliances for its cultivation. He owns also two acres and a half of valuable land on the corporation line of Fostoria. His home farm is only four miles and a half south of Fostoria. Devoting himself to general farming, he gives considerable attention to buying and selling land, stock and general farm property, in which business he has been quite successful.

Mr. Fruth married Emma Herbert, who was born in Loudon township, a daughter of Andrew Herbert, who now lives on Columbus Avenue, Fostoria. To Conrad and Emma (Herbert) Fruth have been born three children: Lester, aged about fifteen years; Norman, now aged about thirteen years; Marie, aged about ten years. In politics Mr. Fruth is a Democrat. Although he is very modest in his political aspirations, he was persuaded to accept a nomination to membership of the school board. He was duly elected and has served his fellow citizens greatly to their satisfaction. He is a communicant of the United Brethren church of West Independence and a liberal supporter of all its interests.

ADAM GRINE.—It is doubtful if anyone is better or more pleasantly known in Big Spring township than Adam Grine, who resides upon a valuable farm in section 28. He is a progressive agriculturist who understands bringing the land to the highest state of cultivation, but the exercise of his powers has by no means been limited to this and he has given to the community public service of a high character. It is a favorable comment upon the confidence reposed in him and upon his personal popularity as well that he was elected land appraiser of Big Spring township by

a majority of one hundred and one, Mr. Grine being a Republican, and an unswerving one; and the township being two hundred and fourteen Democratic. He is a councilman at the present time and he has displayed much conscientious efficiency in the handling of public affairs.

Adam Grine was born in Big Spring township, Seneca county, July 23, 1858, the son of John and Mary (Shortgen) Grine. The father was a native of Belgium, as was also the mother, the former having been born in that country September 24, 1810. In 1847 he and his wife, born in 1827, decided to cast their fortunes with the new world across the Atlantic. Shortly after coming to the United States they found their way to Seneca county, and were fortunate enough to have their dreams of the adopted country come true, for they became prosperous and respected citizens. The father, who owned one hundred and one acres of land, was a Republican, and he and his family attended the Catholic church. He was the father of fifteen children, five of them born to his first marriage and ten to his second, which was contracted in 1849 with Miss Mary Shortgen, daughter of John and Mary Shortgen. The subject was the sixth in order of birth of the latter family, his brothers and sisters being Catharine, John, Joseph, Peter, Margaret, (then Adam), Anna, Nicholas, Henry, Thomas, all living except Peter and Margaret and all living in Seneca county except Catharine, who is living in Trumbell, Nebraska.

In the fashion of the usual farmer's son Mr. Grine attended the district school in the winter months, when the duties of the farm were somewhat lessened, and in the summer devoted his time to assisting his father. When he was fourteen years of age he left his desk in the school room and gave his entire attention to farming. He remained under the parental roof until his thirty-first birthday, when he was married and established a household of his own. Through the exercise of thrift he was able to purchase two hundred and forty acres of land in sections 28 and 33 and to this he and his wife removed. He subsequently found it expedient to dispose of a part of this and to invest elsewhere, and he now retains eighty acres in section 28, upon which he lives. He has cleared and improved this tract and has brought it to an excellent state of development, the principal secret of his success having been hard work and persistence.

Mr. Grine's wife before her marriage was Philomena Pethe, of Big Spring township, a daughter of August Pethe. She was born April 3, 1863, and was educated in the public schools of the township. Their union was celebrated September 24, 1889, and it has been blessed by the birth of eight children. They are Merle A., Cletus H., Stephen E., Mary A., Leo N., Anna C., Susan C. and John. The various members of the family are affiliated with St. Nicholas Catholic church of Big Spring township.

As previously mentioned Mr. Grine is a councilman, a position he secured by unanimous consent. He is a stalwart supporter of the principles taught by Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, McKinley and Roosevelt, and takes a keen and intelligent interest in all matters



pertaining to the public welfare. He is pleasant, courteous, and obliging and one of the substantial citizens of Big Spring township. He is the present treasurer of his church.

Mr. Grine's father died in 1889, his mother having preceded him to the Great Beyond in 1884. They were married at New Riegel, Seneca county, Ohio.

JOHN W. LAMBERJACK, a native of Lake Superior, Michigan, was born January 30, 1864, a son of John and Margaret (Haines) Lamberjack, natives of Germany, who emigrated to this country, locating at Detroit, Michigan, whence they removed to Lake Superior, Michigan, where they lived until 1865, when they came to Loudon township. When they arrived their son was not much more than a year old. He was brought up to a working knowledge of farming on his father's homestead and was educated in convenient district schools. He was employed by his father until he was twenty-six years old. He married Miss Ella Kuhn on April 29, 1890. She was born at Tiffin, Ohio, June 9, 1865, and was brought by her parents to Loudon township when she was only a child. There her father and mother both died. John W. and Ella (Kuhn) Lamberjack are the parents of four children: Mary E., born December 22, 1891; John M., born April 17, 1893; Margaret R., born February 14, 1896; and Florence, born May 5, 1906.

After his marriage Mr. Lamberjack passed the first year operating a farm in Hancock county, Ohio, which he rented of his father. For nine years thereafter he farmed for his father in Loudon township. In 1900 he bought the Reiter farm of eighty acres in section 23, Loudon township, eight miles and a half west of Tiffin and six miles and a half southeast of Fostoria. He has since bought thirty acres formerly of the Frankart estate. Devoting himself to general farming, he gives considerable attention to stock raising. He is an ardent member of the Democratic party, and as a Democrat he was elected a trustee of his township and is now filling that office most efficiently. He and his family are communicants of St. Patrick's Catholic church in Loudon township. His success in a business way has been won by most commendable methods and he is prepared to meet possible future obligations by negotiating insurance in the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company.

John Lamberjack, the father of our subject, is still living, at the ripe old age of eighty years, in Fostoria, being retired. The mother died June 1, 1903.

CHARLES N. FEINDEL was born in Seneca county and like many of his associates has found it a sufficiently favored portion of the globe to warrant his remaining here ever since. He rents of his father in Loudon township one hundred and five acres, upon which he makes his home, and forty acres in Hopewell township, and he is well known in connection with public affairs, being the present township assessor. The date of the nativity of Mr. Feindel was January 26, 1876, his parents being Jacob and Elizabeth (Basel) Feindel. The former was a native of Big Spring

township, born in 1853, and the latter came from Germany, her birth having occurred in that country May 21, 1854.

The early years of Mr. Feindel were spent on his father's homestead, located south of Fostoria on the Tiffin and Findlay road. He attended the district school in the winter and in the summer assisted his father in the manifold duties and tasks of farm life. He left school at the age of sixteen and when twenty-one years of age he rented a farm of forty acres in Loudon township and proceeded to establish himself upon an independent footing. At the age of twenty-two years he became a married man, Flora A. Peter, of Loudon township, becoming united to him in matrimony on the 4th day of November, 1897. They lived upon the above mentioned rented place for about one year and then removed to Hopewell township, where they engaged in farming for two years. The first few years of their married life were indeed full of change, for they left Hopewell township for Liberty township, in which they remained only a year and returning to Hopewell were for three years residents of that township. Their last move was to Loudon township, which they intend to be their permanent home.

In politics Mr. Feindel is a Democrat, having been elected township assessor on that ticket, and his term of office not expiring until January 1, 1912. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees at Bascom and has passed all the chairs. He and his wife are members of the Reformed church of Bascom and give their sympathy and support to all the good causes promulgated by it. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one son, Marion, born January 9, 1899.

Mr. Feindel was the oldest in order of birth of a family of four children, the other members being: George, Laura and Mary, but the latter died in infancy. His parents are living a retired life in Bascom, Hopewell township.

FREDERICK ROSEN.—One of the most progressive, successful and honorable of the citizens of that favored portion of Ohio—Seneca county—is Frederick Rosen, whose eighty acre homestead is one of the most valuable of its size to be found in the locality and whose resources are developed in the most scientific manner, Mr. Rosen being one of those who keep in touch with the latest discoveries and investigations in his chosen profession—agriculture. Although it would be difficult to find any one more enthusiastically loyal to the community in which are centered his interests and his affections, he is an adopted son of the Buckeye state, and his birth occurred on the 8th day of September 1853, his parents being William and Mary Rosen, whose ancestors came from Germany.

When Mr. Rosen was but a child his parents moved from their native state, crossing the Delaware river and taking up their residence in Pennsylvania. When he was a lad of twelve they settled in Snyder county, Pennsylvania, which is situated rather centrally in the Keystone state, and it was there that he grew to young man-

hood. About this time his parents, who had earned the respect and consideration of the community, passed on to their reward. Left upon his own resources Mr. Rosen was a little perplexed as to a choice of life work and he finally concluded to try the carpenter's trade. While engaged in learning its preliminary details he decided that he was not fitted for this vocation and not being one of those timid souls fearful of making a change and trying a hazard of new fortunes, he pulled up stakes and started west. The next twelve years were full of change and adventure and Mr. Rosen can assuredly not be counted one of those poor Americans who, although situated so that they can travel, yet have never seen their own country. In the dozen years of this period of change and travel he traversed twenty-five states and territories, which was in itself a liberal education. If there be truth in the Shakespearean adage "Home keeping youth have ever homely wits," Mr. Rosen need never have been in any fear of its application.

In 1882 Mr. Rosen concluded that he had had enough of wandering for a time and came to Fostoria. It was here that he met and married Miss Syvilla E. Rinebold, daughter of Abraham and Barabra (Peters) Rinebold, of Loudon township. Mr. Rosen considers this to have been one of the most judicious and satisfactory steps in his career. Their union has been blessed by the birth of the following children: Barbara, Emma, Lena, Anna P., Nellie, Abraham and Lola. Barbara married Oliver Hunker, a farmer of Liberty township; Anna P. married Ora Raney, a farmer of Loudon township; Nellie married Huber Welsh, of Hancock county, an employe of Uncle Sam; Emma and Lena died when children; Abraham and Lola still reside with their parents.

With his faithful helpmeet Mr. Rosen removed to the banks of Wolf Creek, on land entered at Upper Sandusky in 1835, and the parchment grant bears the name of Andrew Jackson, then president of the United States. The desirable tract owned by Mr. Rosen consists of eighty acres in section 3, of high and constantly increasing value. He engages in general agriculture with the most excellent results and is well known throughout the neighborhood.

Mr. Rosen is a man who has always stood for the betterment of affairs in his community and among his good deeds may be numbered the fact that he is one of the first promoters of good roads, and was prominent among the petitioners for the first rural mail delivery. He is a wide reader, not only of those journals having a bearing upon the great basic industry of agriculture, but those of a general nature, and he is a subscriber to seven different publications. Added to this is the fact that he is a writer of no small ability and is a frequent contributor to local as well as agricultural papers. He is a member of the Zion Lutheran church of Jackson township and is strictly temperate in his convictions. Mr. Rosen, in short, is a man who is widely and favorably known and enjoys that consideration which invariably comes to a man who is ever honorable, charitable and just, being best liked where best known.



EPHRAIM RINEBOLD, one of the prominent men of Seneca county, was born in Loudon township, on the farm now owned by him, January 15, 1869. His father, Abraham Rinebold, and his grandfather, John Rinebold, were pioneers in Loudon township, the latter a native Pennsylvanian. The family is German, and the descendants possess those excellent traits which make the Germans the most desired of emigrants to American shores. John Rinebold upon coming to Ohio located for a time in Perry county, and it was there that the subject's father first saw the light of day. The land entered by the grandfather, about the year 1830, has ever since been in the family, Mr. Rinebold's highly developed two hundred acres, in sections 2 and 3, and lying three and one-half miles east of Fostoria, being part of the original tract.

Barbara Peter, mother of Mr. Rinebold, was born in Germany and came to the United States with her parents in about the year 1840. They located in Loudon township and there spent the residue of their lives. The father, Abraham Peter, was a soldier in the Napoleonic wars. The father of the subject was twice married, his first wife having been Elizabeth Fruth and the union being blessed by the birth of two children, Rebecca and John, the latter a resident of Loudon township, where he is engaged in farming. To the second marriage with Barbara Peter the following children were born: Catherine, Levi, Henry (deceased), Syvillia E., Abraham P., Mary L. (deceased), Anna E. (deceased) and Ephraim. The father, Abraham Rinebold, passed from this life on the 22nd of August, 1909, and the mother is still living, at the ripe old age of eighty-two years.

Mr. Rinebold obtained his education in the district schools and remained under the parental roof-tree until he reached the age of twenty-one years, when he married and established a household of his own. He is now the owner of two hundred acres, which in this favored section means much and he engages successfully in general farming and stock raising. He takes a wholesome amount of interest in politics and gives enthusiastic allegiance to the Democratic party. He has been twice elected assessor, in the years 1896 and 1897, and he has been twice elected trustee, at the present time serving in that capacity.

Mr. Rinebold's marriage took place on the 23rd day of January, 1890, the lady to become his wife being Miss Bertha Kisabeth, daughter of Henry and Isabel (Henry) Kisabeth. They have one daughter, Jessie P., born April 28, 1894, who attends the public schools. The Rinebold family are affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran church, to which they give ample sympathy and support.

MRS. MARGARET REISS, widow of Henry Reiss, who owns and operates a valuable eighty acre farm, three miles southeast of Fostoria, is one of the widely known and influential women of Seneca county. She is the daughter of Thomas and Margaret O'Brien, and although Irish in extraction, the family having been founded in America in 1835, by the father of our subject, she is a native of Chester county, Pennsylvania, her birth having occurred there April 25, 1847. When only three years of age she

came with her parents to Seneca county, the journey being made by stage. Her parents secured land in Loudon township, became prominent in the life of the community and here passed their days until their demise. Mrs. Reiss is one of seven children, the members of the family being: James, Thomas, Terence, all deceased; Ellen, Mary, Margaret and Catherine.

Mrs. Reiss was reared upon the farm and received her education in the district schools. She was married in October, 1868, to Perry J. Ramsewr, by occupation a blacksmith, living in Fostoria. The death of this well known citizen of Seneca county, who was a veteran of the Civil war, occurred in 1884. There was no issue to this union. Mrs. Reiss' second marriage was contracted with the Rev. Thomas Parker, a clergyman of the Congregational church and an Englishman by nationality. Mr. Parker died two and one half years later. Her union with Henry Reiss, a prominent agriculturist of Seneca county, took place in Tiffin, Ohio, May 3, 1900, and they lived throughout their married life on Mr. Reiss' estate in section 20, Loudon township. He had been married previously to Miss Anna Hammer, and had three children: Henry D., born September 30, 1893; Emma C., born January 30, 1895; and Carl J., born June 7, 1896. Mrs. Reiss has reared these children, and now since the death of the father, October 30, 1905, with the assistance of the sons manages the farm. Mrs. Reiss is a woman of strong character and much executive ability and is favorably known throughout this section. She is a member and liberal supporter of St. John's Evangelical church of Loudon township, known as the Cramer church, Mr. Reiss having also been a member and liberal supporter of the same.

CHARLES W. CRAMER was born, reared and lived until recently on the same homestead, but during the first of the present year he and his wife moved to a new home in Fostoria, where they are living a retired life. His parents were Henry and Mary (Richards) Cramer. Henry Cramer was born in York county, Pennsylvania, in 1808, and came to Loudon township in 1826, when he was about eighteen years old. There he lived for sixty-three years, until 1889, when he removed to Fostoria, where he died March 4, 1907. Mary Richards was born in Clinton township, Seneca county, in 1818, and died in 1904. This worthy couple were farmers in the pioneer days, through the years of development, and in later days, when farming in Seneca county had become quite another thing than the farming they had known in their youth. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom are living in 1910. One of these, Charles W. Cramer was born at the old family homestead on the McCutcheonville road in Loudon township, three miles and a half from Fostoria, September 3, 1854. He was brought up to a complete knowledge of farming in all its details and gained a fair common school education, to which he has added by studious reading and observation throughout his career to the present time. He married Miss Alice Shaffner in 1882. She is a native of Bloomville, Seneca county, and was born April 27, 1856. After their marriage they took up their residence on rented land, which

Mr. Cramer farmed quite successfully. In 1889 he bought a farm of seventy-five acres in section 21, Loudon township, which he has improved until it is one of the best and most productive in that neighborhood.

To Charles W. and Alice (Shaffner) Cramer have been born four children, named as follows in the order of their nativity: Ray, born October 26, 1883; Leroy, December 19, 1885; Maud, October 8, 1888; Nellie, December 16, 1890. Ray and Leroy are married. Mr. Cramer and his family are communicants and he is a member of the official board of the Methodist Episcopal church of Fostoria. He is also included in the Brotherhood Sunday school class of that city. Though he is a stanch Republican of no little influence he has never taken an active interest in politics. His sturdy traits of character are recognized and respected by his fellow citizens of all classes.

ALVIN D. LENNER.—One of the most prominent and prosperous of the citizens of Big Spring township, as indeed of Seneca county, is Alvin D. Lenner, who owns a splendid tract of three hundred and twenty acres, all lying compactly situated in Big Spring township. He constitutes in himself a shining example of the self made man, for he started with nothing and has achieved his present substantial position by the exercise of good management, thrift and industry, coupled with good principles and the ability to inspire confidence. Going back two generations to his grandfather we find Mr. Lenner to be of German origin and he partakes in high degree of those traits which make the German one of the most welcome of emigrants to the "Land of the free and the home of the brave."

Alvin D. Lenner is a native of Big Spring township, born here July 7, 1860, his parents being Daniel and Frances (Ribbley) Lenner. The father was born in Ashland county, Ohio, and his father, Christian Lenner, as before mentioned, was a German, his birth having occurred in the town of Swybrick in about the year 1800. He and his good wife, Mary (Sprow) Lenner, a native of the same place as her husband, severed previous associations and sailed across the Atlantic for America sometime about the year 1837. First locating in Ashland county, they remained there only about a year, the father of the subject being born within that period. In 1838 they located in section 27, Big Spring township, upon the farm upon which Jay Lenner now makes his residence. Here the grandfather spent the remainder of his life, his demise taking place after he had attained to the venerable age of ninety-one years. He was the father of five children, the members of the family other than Daniel Lenner, the father of the subject being: Catherine, Elizabeth, Jacob and Christian, all deceased but Daniel and Catherine.

An infant when he came to Big Spring township, Daniel Lenner here grew to manhood, adopted the vocation of farming, married, and reared a family of eight children, seven of whom are living at the present time (1910). The names of his children are: Alvin D., Mary, Rollin W., Jay, Susan, Cora and Alma. Mr.





RESIDENCE OF A. D. LENNER



and Mrs. Daniel Lenner are respected citizens of Big Spring township. The latter, whose maiden name was Francis Ribbley, was the daughter of John and Mary Ribbley. The parents were born in 1803, in Alsace Lorraine, and were married before coming from the old country. First locating in Sandusky county, Ohio, they subsequently came on to Wyandot county, and then to the adjoining county of Seneca, residing in Big Spring township the residue of their lives, the father dying in 1894.

Alvin D. Lenner was reared upon the old family homestead of the Lenners and attended the district schools until somewhere near his eighteenth birthday. He then entered upon an active career as an agriculturist, and remained beneath the home roof until he was about thirty, when he married and removed to his own property. This large finely situated tract, is in a high state of improvement and is adorned with some excellent buildings, the residence being thoroughly modern in its appointments, the only one of this nature in the township, in fact. In addition to general farming stock raising is carried on.

The marriage of Mr. Lenner occurred in Big Spring township, on the 15th day of April, 1891, the lady to become his wife being Miss Elizabeth Herbert, of Big Spring township. She was born in Loudon township in 1860, the daughter of Jacob and Adeline (Slemmer) Herbert, and received her education in the common schools. Five children have been born to them, the following four of whom are living: Francis, born in 1892; Helen, born in 1894; Gladys, born in 1895; and Herbert, born April 4, 1898.

In the question of politics Mr. Lenner pays fealty to the Republican party, and although interested in current events, is not an officer seeker. He is a quiet, unassuming, modest man and stands well among his associates.

JOHN H. ZELLER is a son of Isaac and Catharine (Sponseller) Zeller and was born in Stark county, Ohio, April 24, 1856. His father was a native of Lebanon, Ohio, and his mother first saw the light of day in Stark county. When John H. was about a year old his parents moved to Loudon township, Seneca county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. There the son was reared to farm work in all its details as it was handled throughout the country at that time. In good district schools nearby his home, which he attended until he was about eighteen years old, he was well grounded in practical education. Not long after he left school he went into business for himself as a thresher and later he operated a sawmill. In both of these enterprises he was satisfactorily successful. It may be said that in a way threshing has been his leading interest through life. Though he now owns two fine farms aggregating one hundred and sixty acres, he does not devote himself primarily to farming but gives his attention particularly to threshing. It may be a surprise to many who know him to learn here that this veteran thresherman has "run with a threshing machine" about thirty-five years.

In 1879 Mr. Zeller married Miss Alice Hartsock, who died January 10, 1908, and is deeply mourned by her husband and three



sons, as an exemplary wife and mother whose place in the household and in the community it would be well nigh impossible to fill. Mr. Zeller is a live, up-to-date man, as is evidenced by the fact that he was one of the first in his neighborhood to purchase an automobile. As a Democrat he has taken considerable interest in general and local politics. He served his township faithfully as one of its trustees and has filled other official positions. He is a member of the Reformed church, is a past noble grand of Fostoria Lodge, No. 305, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is identified with the A. I. U., a fraternal insurance order.

FRANK Y. KNOWLTON.—Among the representative citizens of Seneca county must assuredly be numbered Frank Y. Knowlton, who was born in Big Spring township May 7, 1860, and has spent nearly all of his life here, at present owning and operating some one hundred and two desirable acres in his native township. He is the son of Austin and Sarah (Henderson) Knowlton. The father was a native of the state of Massachusetts, but about the year 1822 came on to the Buckeye state and located at the town of Tymochtee, Wyandot county, subsequently coming across the county line to Big Spring township, when he was about twenty-one years of age. He entered eighty acres of land and there established a home, taking for his wife Louisa McKinsey and becoming the father of four children, all sons. After the death of his first wife he married again, the second wife being Mrs. Josiah Swigart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, and the subject is a child of this union. A brother Richard resides in Michigan and Lucy and Mary, both unmarried, reside in Big Spring township on the old homestead. The father died in 1902, at the venerable age of ninety three years, and his wife died in 1886.

Frank Y. Knowlton was reared upon the farm of his father and under the excellent guidance of that gentleman gained a good insight into many of the secrets of successful agriculture. He secured his early educational discipline in the district schools and remained beneath the home roof until his marriage. By the exercise of previous industry and thrift he found himself in a position to become the possessor of a farm of his own, this being located in section 35, Big Spring township, one mile north and three miles west of the Range. He is of that progressive type of agriculturist who has no disinclination to adopt the newest ideas, and prosperity has attended his endeavors.

On the 31st day of March, 1887, Mr. Knowlton laid the foundation of a happy home and congenial life companionship by his marriage with Jane Johnson, a native of Adrian, Big Spring township, and educated in the district schools. Her parents are William and Nancy (Cline) Johnson, natives of Ohio, the family coming from Pennsylvania originally. The fruit of this union is an only son, William A., born September 1, 1888, and educated in the district schools. He has chosen farming for his life work.

Mr. Knowlton takes no small amount of pleasure and recreation in his affiliation with Adrian Lodge, No. 494, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which organization he is a past noble

grand. He is a staunch Republican, endorsing with his sympathy and suffrage the men and measures advanced by that party, and he is a member of the board of the Adrian Special District School.

PROFESSOR LEWIS M. RIDENOUR.—It is given to few citizens to play as useful and varied a part in the life of any community as does Professor Lewis M. Ridenour in that of the town of New Reigel and Big Spring township, Seneca county. Since 1903 he has filled with signal efficiency the position of principal of the New Reigel schools and since 1904 he has been township assessor, while in addition to this he has served the community as justice of the peace and notary public. Professor Ridenour is bound to this locality by peculiarly strong ties, for it was here that he was born, March 31, 1873, and here that he has spent the greater part of his life. His parents were John and Lydia (Hickey) Ridenour, the father a native of Seneca county, Ohio, and the mother of Chester county, Pennsylvania, the former born in the year 1833, and the latter, in 1839. The subject was the sixth of order of birth in a family of eight children, the members of the family being: Ellen, William, Idlla, Frank, Clara, Lewis, Lillian and Charles.

When Professor Ridenour was a lad about seven years of age he removed with his parents to Loudon township. He secured the educational advantages of the district and parochial schools and exhibited marked efficiency as a student. At the early age of twenty-one years he had the distinction to be elected assessor of Loudon township and served two terms. Shortly thereafter he took up the vocation of teaching, beginning upon this career in 1895 and since 1903 he has been at the head of the school in the capacity of principal, his services having been of a thorough and satisfactory character. He again holds the position of assessor, this time of Big Spring township, his tenure of office dating from 1904 and his incumbency of the office of justice of the peace is of seven years duration. Politically Professor Ridenour is a Democrat, giving unfaltering support to the men and measures advanced by that party.

On the 3rd day of October, 1901, Professor Ridenour laid the foundation of a happy married life by his union with Miss Catharine Dell, of Big Spring township. She is the daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Woolenschnider) Dell and the third in order of birth in a family of seven children, the members of the family being: Frank, Susan, Catharine, John, Mary, Peter and Joseph. To them have been born six children, whose names are: Marie, Ernestine, Donald, Holland, John and Ruth. The family are members of St. Boniface Catholic church and give their sympathy and support to its various good causes. Professor Ridenour owns the attractive property upon which he resides.

ARTHUR A. CUNNINGHAM.—Honored and respected in every class of society, Arthur A. Cunningham has for some time been a leader in thought and action in the business world of Seneca county and his name is inscribed high on the roll of its foremost citizens, his honorable career adding luster to the history of the

state. Faithfulness to duty and strict adherence to a fixed purpose in life will do more to advance a man's interests than wealth or adventitious circumstances. The successful men of the day are they who have planned their own advancement and have accomplished it in spite of many obstacles and with a certainty that could have been attained only through their own efforts. This class of men have a worthy representative in Arthur A. Cunningham, who has long resided at Tiffin, where his business interests are of gigantic proportions.

A native son and scion of one of the pioneer families of Seneca county, Mr. Cunningham was born at Tiffin, the date of his nativity being the 26th of January, 1857. His father, George W. Cunningham, was born near Bunker Hill, Virginia, in the valley made famous by Sheridan's immortal ride, on the 23rd of June, 1823. As a youth George W. Cunningham learned the miller's trade and like many other ambitious young men he looked to the west as the best place in which to make his fortune. Accordingly, in 1843, he came to Ohio, locating at Tiffin, where, after a few changes in his business connections, he built the Clifton Mill, which he continued to operate from 1859 until just a few years prior to his death, which occurred on the 18th of May, 1893. He was probably the best known man in Seneca county, both as a business man and as a citizen, although he did not participate actively in public affairs. He was decidedly public spirited and contributed in generous measure to all projects advanced for the good of the general welfare. In 1855 was solemnized his marriage to Miss Mary Keller, who was born and reared in Seneca county, and they became the parents of four children, concerning whom the following brief data are here incorporated: Arthur A. is the immediate subject of this review; Ella is the widow of E. B. Myers, who was summoned to the life eternal in 1910; Frank, whose birth occurred in 1862 is now in business in the city of Chicago, Illinois; and Courtney, born in March, 1864, who is associated with the subject of this sketch in business. The dearly beloved mother passed into the Great Beyond on the 8th of May, 1911, at the venerable age of eighty-two years.

Arthur A. Cunningham was reared to adult age at Tiffin, to the public schools of which place he is indebted for his preliminary educational training, having been graduated in the local high school as a member of the class of 1873. After leaving school he entered the flouring mill of his father, where he continued to be employed for a period of four years, at the expiration of which, in 1878, he formed a partnership with Colonel S. H. Hunt, of Upper Sandusky, to engage in the grain business at Tiffin. The above alliance continued for four years and in 1882 Mr. Cunningham purchased his partner's interest and continued to conduct the business individually until 1890, in which year he admitted to partnership Ralph D. Sneath, of Tiffin, the firm becoming that of Sneath & Company and so continuing until 1905. In the latter year the business was incorporated under the laws of the state of Ohio, and under the name of the Sneath-Cunningham Company. Of this concern Mr. Cunningham is president; Ralph D. Sneath,



vice president; and Courtney Cunningham, secretary and treasurer. Mr. Cunningham is identified with a number of Tiffin's most important industrial enterprises. He is president of the Citizens Building & Loan Association; president of the Tiffin Consolidation Telephone Company; vice president of the Tiffin Savings Bank; and a director in the Commercial National Bank. In connection with his extensive business affairs he is a valued and appreciative member of the Tiffin Chamber of Commerce. He is a business man of unusual executive ability and tremendous vitality and one who has been met with success in practically every undertaking in which he has been concerned.

Mr. Cunningham was united in marriage, on the 7th of July, 1881, to Miss Minnie B. Holt, who was a class mate and fellow graduate of her husband's in high school. She is a native of Seneca county and is a daughter of William and Belle (Flenner) Holt, pioneers of this section of the fine old Buckeye state. Mrs. Cunningham was born on the 22nd of August, 1856. There have been no children born to this union.

In his political convictions Mr. Cunningham is arrayed as a stalwart in the ranks of the Democratic party and while he has never had any ambition for political preferment of any description he is ever on the alert and enthusiastically in sympathy with all matters affecting the well being of Seneca county. He is deeply and sincerely interested in community affairs and his wife is a consistent member of the Trinity Episcopal church, in the different departments of which she is a most active and zealous factor. In the grand old Masonic order Mr. Cunningham has long been prominent in Ohio. He has passed through the circles of both the Scottish and the York Rite branches, having been a thirty-second degree Mason since 1888. In 1910 he was honored by election to the thirty-third degree. He is also affiliated with Tiffin Lodge, No. 77, Free and Accepted Masons; and DeMolay Commandery, No. 9, Knights Templars, in addition to which he is a member of Zenolia Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, of Toledo, Ohio. In all the relations of life Mr. Cunningham has so conducted himself as to command the unalloyed confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens and his entire life has been exemplary in all respects.

W. H. GRAPES.—Widely known to the traveling public as a genial, accomodating and popular "mine host," W. H. Grapes has been engaged in the hotel business for a number of years, at the present time being landlord of the Morcher House in Tiffin, Seneca county. A native of Ohio, he was born April 14, 1840, in Roseville, Muskingum county, a son of Henry and Catherine (Du Val) Grapes. While W. H. Grapes was yet a small boy his parents moved to Marion, Ohio, where he received his elementary education in the union schools of that city. Ambitious to further advance his education, he subsequently continued his studies for a year in Galion, Ohio, where he was under the tutelage of Hon. John Climer. Beginning life then as a wage earner, he was for a while clerk in a grocery store at Marion. Making a decided change of

residence and occupation in 1857, Mr. Grapes migrated to Minnesota, and was engaged in farming in the west until November, 1859. Returning in that month to Ohio, he came to Tiffin, and here entered the drug store of John F. Wooster, and while with him became thoroughly acquainted with the drug business. In November, 1861, forming a partnership with E. W. Dubois, Mr. Grapes opened a drug store at Fostoria. In the fall of 1865 he purchased his partner's interest in the establishment, which he managed alone for a time, afterwards being associated with Charles Foster, whom he subsequently bought out. Finally selling his entire stock at an advantage, Mr. Grapes returned to Tiffin, and having bought the two rooms adjoining the Tiffin National Bank on Washington street, he fitted and furnished them and put in a choice stock of drugs. He continued here as a druggist for a short time, when he took advantage of an opportunity to sell.

Removing then to Fostoria, he bought the Cunningham Flour Mills, which he rebuilt and operated until he had a good chance to sell. He then bought back the drug business which he had formerly owned in Fostoria and after managing it successfully for a few years disposed of it and retired from that line of business. He subsequently became interested in manufacturing pursuits and built in Fostoria a spoke factory, which he operated for a time before selling it. In 1874 he engaged in the general dry goods, merchant tailoring and boot and shoe business, having bought the business known as the Kenower Dry Goods Company, which he operated until 1880. He then embarked in the hotel business, an entirely different enterprise, and has since rebuilt, refurnished and managed several hotels, including the following named: The Hays House in Fostoria; the Turpin House, in Greenville; the Marsh House, which he furnished and opened at Van Wert; the Hotel Plaza in Piqua, Ohio; Hotel Bucklin, which he remodeled and opened at Elkhart, Indiana; the Ball House at Fremont, Ohio, which was re-named the "Grapes," and while in Fremont he furnished and opened at Jackson, Ohio, the Hotel "Cambrian," known as the Grapes & Grapes.

Coming again to Tiffin, in February, 1905, Mr. Grapes took charge of the new hotel "Shawhan," which he managed until March 1, 1909, when he went to Middle Bass Island, where he had control of Middle Bass Club six months. On January 1, 1910, he took charge of his present hotel, the Morcher House, which under his management is well patronized, his guests finding him pleasant, accommodating and hospitable.

Fraternally Mr. Grapes is a member of Fostoria Lodge, No. 188, F. & A. M., and a charter member of Piqua Lodge, No. 534, B. P. O. E. He has been twice married. He married first Helen Hayes, of Fostoria, who died in August, 1887. Five children blessed their union, three of whom are living, namely: Will H., Nella, wife of Charles Harnon, Jr., and Charles H. Mr. Grapes married for his second wife Ella Culp, a daughter of Judge Culp, of Greenville, Ohio. She too has passed to the higher life, her death occurring in November, 1891.

EDMUND A. WARNER is a native son of Seneca county, and no citizen enjoys within its limits a higher degree of personal popularity. He is incumbent of the dual office of freight and ticket agent for the Nickel Plate Railroad, in the city of Fostoria, and is an able and valued executive.

Mr. Warner was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, on the 9th of January, 1872, and is a son of David and Sarah J. (Ash) Warner, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and the latter of whom was born in Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, where the Ash family settled in 1832, becoming prominently identified with the pioneer history of that township. David Warner served as a gallant soldier in an Ohio regiment during the Civil war and is a valued member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is Republican in his political proclivities and both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. His active career was devoted almost entirely to agricultural pursuits and he is now living retired in the village of Kansas, this county. He and his wife became the parents of two sons and C. P. Warner is living in Cleveland, engaged in the restaurant business.

Edmund A. Warner was reared to maturity in the village of Kansas, this county, and was afforded the advantages of its public schools. There also he learned the art of telegraphy in the office of the Lake Erie and Western Railroad and when he was seventeen years of age he was given regular employment as an operator for this company, by which he was employed, at various points in Ohio, for several years, after which he was a telegraph operator for the Standard Oil Company for a number of years, within which he was stationed at various places. In 1894 he located in Fostoria and assumed the position of clerk in the freight office of the Nickel Plate Railroad. Through faithful and effective service he won promotion through the various grades and he has served as freight and ticket agent for this company since 1907.

In politics Mr. Warner is a stanch advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party and he has served as a member of the city council of Fostoria, of which body he was elected president in 1910. He is a member of the Seneca County Republican Executive Committee and takes an active part in the local work of his party. By reason of his father's service in the Civil war he is eligible for and is identified with Norris Post, No. 27, Grand Army of the Republic, of which he is an associate member. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 86, Knights of Pythias, of which he is past chancellor; Fostoria Lodge, No. 935, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; and is also a member of the Knights of the Maccabees, in which he has represented his tent in the Supreme Tent of the state. Mr. Warner has an attractive home at 542 North Main street and the same is a center of generous hospitality. Mrs. Warner is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

On the 15th of September, 1897, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Warner to Miss Louise Hill, daughter of James and Mary Hill, of Fostoria, in which city she was born and reared. Mr. and Mrs. Warner have one son, Caples A., who was born on the 5th of July, 1901.



JOHN H. JONES.—It is pleasing to note in connection with the various personal sketches appearing in this work that many of the native sons of Seneca county have here found ample opportunity for productive effort in connection with the varied industries of life and that they have attained indubitable success in their several vocations. He to whom this review is devoted is known as one of the leading mason contractors of his native county and maintains his home and business headquarters in the city of Fostoria. Here he is president of the Seneca Wire & Manufacturing Company and is also engaged in the manufacturing of cement blocks, besides which he has other local business interests of varied order. He is one of the representative business men of the county and his course has been so ordered as to retain to him the inviolable confidence and high regard of the community in which he has passed virtually his entire life thus far.

In the old family homestead on East North street, in the city of Fostoria, John H. Jones was ushered into the world on the 4th of December, 1870, and he is a son of John A. C. and Emeline (Flack) Jones. \* The father is now a resident of Kansas, Seneca county, but the mother died in Liberty township in 1883. When the subject of this review was a child his parents removed to Liberty township, this county, and located on a farm. There he was reared to adult age and his educational advantages in his youth were those afforded by the public schools, which he continued to attend until he was nineteen years of age. In 1890 he located in Fostoria, where he served an apprenticeship at the mason's trade, under the direction of his father. He finally joined the masons' union and began work as a journeyman. Since 1898 he has been independently engaged in contracting and had the distinction of manufacturing the first cement blocks utilized in this section of the state. He has handled large contracts for concrete construction, as well as many important contracts for the construction of buildings of brick and stone, in which lines he is known as one of the most extensive and successful contractors in his native county. Mr. Jones well deserves the title of captain of industry and his progressive ideas and unremitting energy have gained to him a large measure of success, the while his efforts have conserved the material advancement of his home city and county. As before stated, he is president of the Seneca Wire & Manufacturing Company, one of the important industrial concerns of Fostoria, and he is also a stockholder in the Commercial Bank & Savings Company. In connection with his contracting work Mr. Jones has erected many of the best factory and business buildings in Fostoria, besides many residences and a number of public buildings, including a number of Catholic school buildings.

Though never active in the domain of practical politics and never a seeker of public office Mr. Jones takes a loyal interest in local affairs and his political allegiance is given to the Republican party. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 288, Free and Accepted Masons, and also with Fostoria Lodge, No. 305, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1896 was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Jones to Miss

Augusta Nique, who was born and reared in Hancock county, and they have three children, John P., Alice and Carl. In 1902 Mr. Jones erected his fine modern residence on North Main street, and the home is well known for its generous hospitality.

ROLLAND W. SOLOMON.—The able and popular superintendent of public schools of Fostoria has proved himself a valuable factor in connection with educational work in his native state and his success in his profession has been on a parity with his well proved abilities. He has made of success not an accident but a logical result and his advancement represents the direct result of his own efforts. His career has shown conclusively that while hope is of the valley effort is climbing the mountain side. He has ever held in high regard, the result of individual accomplishment, and has ever accorded due credit and honor to the man who has won success by worthy means.

Professor Solomon is a native of the old Buckeye state as he was born on a farm in Scott township, Sandusky county, Ohio, on the 8th of November, 1873, and he is a son of Isaiah N. and Esther R. (Good) Solomon, the former of whom was born on the farm which still represents his home, in Sandusky county, this state, where his parents settled in the pioneer days, and the latter of whom is a native of Seneca county, Ohio, where her parents were likewise pioneer settlers. Isaiah N. Solomon has given his entire active life to the great basic industry of agriculture, in connection with which he has gained a competency. He served as a valiant soldier of the Union in the Civil war and in the "piping times of peace" he has shown the same loyalty that prompted him to go forth in defense of the integrity of the nation. Professor Rolland W. Solomon gained his early experiences in connection with the practical responsibilities of life from his boyhood association with the work of the home farm and his preliminary educational training was secured in the district schools, which he continued to attend during the winter terms until he was about sixteen years of age, in the meanwhile assisting in the work of the home farm during the summer seasons. He continued his training in the normal schools and finally entered the Northern Ohio University, at Ada, Ohio, in which he was graduated, in the classical course, as a member of the class of 1899, and from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1902 his Alma Mater conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. Since his graduation he has completed an effective post-graduate course in the same university, besides which he has done special post-graduate work of effective order in the University of Chicago. He provided for the expenses of his college education through his services as teacher in the public schools and his work in the pedagogical profession has been of the most earnest and enthusiastical order, so that he has been able to rouse the attention and interest of his students and to gain the best results in all departments of the work carried forward under his supervision. From 1899 to 1906 he served as superintendent of the public schools of West Mansfield, this state, after which he was incumbent of a similar position at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, where he

remained until 1908, when he was elected to his present important position as superintendent of the schools of Fostoria. All his administration has been most successful and in many ways has he raised the already high standard maintained by the schools which are under his supervision. Professor Solomon and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church; he is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, including Fostoria Commandery of the Knights Templars, and he holds membership in the lodge of the Knights of Pythias, at Kansas, Seneca county. By reason of his father's service in the Civil war he is eligible for and holds a place as associate member of the Grand Army of the Republic. In politics he gives his allegiance to the Republican party, though he has never cared to enter the arena of public politics and has never sought public office.

On the 10th of July, 1902, Professor Solomon was united in marriage to Miss Ada A. Zeis, daughter of Jacob and Alice Zeis, well known residents of Tiffin, Seneca county. Mrs. Solomon is a woman of culture and gracious personality and has been a successful teacher of music and painting, having been graduated in the art department of Heidelberg College, at Tiffin, Ohio, as a member of the class of 1899. Professor and Mrs. Solomon have one daughter, Geraldine, who was born on the 29th of November, 1903.

JOHN W. BAKER.—Occupying an honored position among the worthy and respected citizens of Clinton township is John W. Baker, who has spent his useful and pleasant life within its boundaries, and since attaining manhood has been actively identified with the advancement of its agricultural interests. A son of William Baker, he was born, September 26, 1840, just north of Tiffin, in that part of Clinton township bordering on the Sandusky river.

William Baker was born, in 1806, in Frederick county, Maryland, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, Frederick Baker. Soon after attaining his majority he visited Seneca county, Ohio, spending a part of the year 1828 here. Returning home, he remained there awhile, but about 1831 again came to this part of Ohio, and for awhile worked with his brother Ezra in a saw mill and grist mill, which plant was erected, probably, in 1832, it being one of the first established in this locality. Thrifty and energetic, he accumulated considerable property, and wisely invested his money in land, his first purchase consisting of a tract containing one hundred and twenty acres lying along the north bank of the Sandusky river. He met with satisfactory success, eventually becoming owner of two hundred and eighty acres of rich and fertile land. He was a true Christian, and a strong anti-slavery man. He married Margaret Derr, who survived him ten years, his death occurring on the home farm in 1874, and hers in 1884. Seven children were born of their union, five of whom survive, as follows: William, Alice, Mary, Ann E., and John W.

Growing to manhood on the parental farm, John W. Baker received a liberal education for his times, attending first the district schools, and afterwards the Heidelberg College. For four successive winters he taught in the rural schools of Seneca county,



but since that time has given his undivided attention to agriculture. His untiring efforts and continued industry, combined with practical skill and sound judgment, have met with a well merited reward. Mr. Baker's fine farm of one hundred and seventy-four acres, lying near the north corporation line of Tiffin, is in an excellent state of cultivation, and yields abundantly of the crops common to this part of the union. He has made improvements of value on the place, his substantial barns and commodious residence, with the other necessary buildings, greatly enhancing the value as well as the beauty of his home property. Mr. Baker has a tenant on the place, and directs the management of the farm.

Mr. Baker married, in 1863, Elmina Michael, who was born, June 13, 1843, in Liberty township, Seneca county, Ohio, a daughter of John and Eliza (Abbott) Michaels. She is a woman of much culture, having obtained her early education in the district schools, after which she attended the Tiffin High School, and the Delaware Female College. Thus thoroughly fitted for a professional career, she taught school a few terms with much success, abandoning the position of a teacher for that of a wife and mother. Five children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Baker; three of whom have passed to the higher life, namely: Herbert lived but two years; Anna died at the age of sixteen years; and Oliver passed to the life beyond when nineteen years of age. The children living are Edith and Ethel, twins, born December 25, 1883. Edith is the wife of William Kirshner, of Tiffin; and Ethel, unmarried resides in Tiffin.

Religiously Mr. Baker and his family are members of the Methodist Protestant church. Politically he is an adherent of the Republican party, and fraternally he belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics.

EMANUEL LUTHER BARKLEY has been a resident of Fostoria since 1888, and he holds precedence as one of the leading contractors and builders of this attractive city, where he is recognized as an able business man and where he has made a valuable contribution to the development and progress of the city.

Mr. Barkley was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, on the 1st of June, 1858, and is a son of Jacob and Julius (Stern) Barkley, both of whom continued their residence in that county for many years. At the time of their death they were residents of Fostoria. Both were of Pennsylvania German lineage. Of the five children two are living and the other three died in infancy. The subject of this review was reared to the discipline of the home farm and during his boyhood and youth he attended the district schools during the winter terms and assisted in the work of the home farm during the summer seasons, thus continuing until he had attained to the age of fourteen years, since which time he has been dependent upon his own resources so that he has fought the battle of life for himself and is deserving of the more credit for the success which he has attained. He continued to be identified with farm work until he was twenty-three years of age and then entered upon an apprenticeship to the trade of carpentry, in which he became a

skilled artisan. He was employed as a journeyman for several years and then began contracting and building on his own responsibility, having been for some time located in the west. He was married in 1888, and in this year took up his residence in the city of Fostoria, where he began contracting for the erection of houses, later expanding the scope of his enterprise to include the erection of brick and stone buildings for business and factory purposes. He has built up a large and substantial enterprise and in addition to his contracting he has handled real estate to a greater or less extent. He is member of the Carpenters' Union, is Republican in his political allegiance and is a man of definite energy and progressive ideas in connection with his business operations.

In the year 1888 Mr. Barkley was united in marriage to Miss Jennie N. Bogard, also a native of Wyandot county, and they became the parents of two children, Eva, who was born in 1891 and who was graduated in the Fostoria Business College; and Ray, who was born in 1893 and is now a student in a local business college.

CARL SMITH.—One of the progressive and representative business men of the younger generation in the city of Fostoria, where he is conducting a general insurance agency, Mr. Smith is entitled to consideration in this publication, being held in high esteem as a loyal and progressive citizen. Mr. Smith reverts to the fine old Keystone state of the Union as the place of his nativity. He was born at Gerard, Erie county, Pennsylvania, on the 24th of March, 1880, and is a son of Carlton L. and Jennie L. (Wadsworth) Smith, who now maintain their home in Fostoria. When the subject of this sketch was about four years of age his parents moved to Fremont, Ohio, and there he was afforded the advantages of the public schools. In 1896 the family removed to Fostoria, and here he was graduated in the high school as a member of the class of 1900. In the meanwhile his studies had been interrupted by his service as a soldier in the Spanish-American war. At the inception of this conflict, in 1898, he enlisted in Company D, Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and he proceeded with his command to Cuba, where he saw service at Cienfuegos and Santa Clara. He served as regimental clerk and corporal and was mustered out at the close of the war, after which he resumed his studies in the high school. In 1901 Mr. Smith assumed a clerical position in the offices of the Mechanics' Banking Company, which was later incorporated as the Union National Bank. He served as bookkeeper in this institution until 1907, when he withdrew and established himself in the general insurance business in Fostoria. He is a representative of a large number of the leading insurance companies of the country and he is an underwriter who has built up a very prosperous enterprise based upon his energetic work and the high esteem in which he is held in the community. He is also manager of the Fostoria Opera House.

Mr. Smith is a staunch Republican in politics, is identified with the Home Guards and the Spanish War Veterans' Association, besides which he is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 288, Free and Accepted Masons; Fostoria Lodge, No. 935, Benevolent and

Protective Order of Elks; and is also a member of the Fostoria Commercial Club. He holds membership in the Presbyterian church. Mr. Smith is a bachelor.

**REV. JOHN RIDLEY.**—One of the valued clergymen of the United Brethren church, who latterly has given effective service in the cause in the capacity of an evangelist and who also answers to the calling of an agriculturist, is the Rev. John Ridley, well known and esteemed throughout the state of Ohio. He is a veteran in the field and can look back over forty years' labor for the uplifting of humanity. He was born October 10, 1837, in Franklin county, Ohio, and is the son of Jacob and Mary (Hershey) Ridley, natives of Pennsylvania. The father first began his life as a wage earner in the capacity of a miller, but later took up farming as a life work. He was of the United Brethren faith, a layman, and was a model for his piety and right living and for many years labored zealously for the upbuilding of the church. He came from his native state to Ohio and it was in 1849 that he located in Seneca county, taking up land about three miles east of Tiffin. He subsequently removed across the line into Sandusky county and bought a farm of eighty acres, where he resided throughout the years which remained to him. This worthy man and dauntless pioneer was born September, 1798, and was married in 1821 to Mary Hershey, who passed on to her reward when Rev. Mr. Ridley was but a year and a half old. The father was a Republican in his political convictions and took much interest in public matters, always giving his support to those measures likely to result in the greatest good to the greatest number.

The Rev. John Ridley is of the best type of self made man and what education he succeeded in acquiring was largely through his own efforts. Having received his preliminary educational discipline in the district schools of this township, at an early age he entered the ranks of the wage earners and he was more than twenty-one years of age when he came to the resolve to become the master of a thorough education. This he inaugurated with a course of reading, and every opportunity to broaden his general knowledge and culture was seized with avidity. When he was about thirty years of age he was taken into the conference of the United Brethren church and his services in that ministry have been of an eminent character. He is widely known as an evangelist, his eloquence and convincing oratory making him generally sought at great meetings.

On January 17, 1861, Mr. Ridley took unto himself a helpmeet in the person of Miss Delia A. Brunner. She was born December 26, 1841, a daughter of Jacob and Mary Brunner, natives of Reading county, Pennsylvania. After his removal to the Buckeye state he took up land and was employed in its cultivation. He was born December 27, 1794, and was a soldier in the war of 1812. After the declaration of peace he returned to his home in Sandusky county, where he engaged in not only farming but stone quarrying, furnishing the stone used in the construction of the township



roadway bridge. His wife was born in 1800 and their marriage took place in the year 1818. Mr. Ridley's wife was the youngest of eleven children, only four of whom are living at the present day.

The marriage of Mr. Ridley and his wife has been blessed by the birth of nine children, including: Arletta M., born February 20, 1862; Martha, born November 24, 1863; Marshall M. L., born November 3, 1866; Jacob W., born October 5, 1869; Edward L., born March 13, 1872; Orlando J., born March 2, 1874; and Harry, born April 5, 1883. All of them have attained to useful citizenship. Arletta M. became a professional nurse and resides in Buffalo. Martha became the wife of John Biner and makes her home in Fremont; Marshall took for his wife Ada Hutchins, their union being solemnized April 7, 1894, and they reside on a farm north of Greenspring; Jacob W. married Sarah Sample January 11, 1893, and eight children are growing to manhood and womanhood beneath their roof tree. Orlando is a citizen of Chicago, where he holds a responsible position in the Pullman works.

Rev. Mr. Ridley has had several charges, all of them in the Buckeye state. He first entered upon his labors at Republic. He was transferred to the Fremont missions, and thence to Sycamore, from there to Rising Sun, and from that place to his present charge at Greenspring, which town has been his headquarters ever since taking up his evangelistic work. He puts his whole heart into his campaign for righteousness, and the result has been accordingly.

WALTER M. WITHERSPOON.—It has been given Mr. Witherspoon to attain success and prestige as one of the younger members of the bar of his native state and he is engaged in the practice of his profession in the city of Fostoria, where in addition to his private practice he is serving as claim agent for the Nickel Plate Railroad Company.

Mr. Witherspoon was born at Wellston, Jackson county, Ohio, on the 15th of February, 1880, and is a son of James A. and Sarah E. (Erwin) Witherspoon, both of whom died in that village when the subject of this review was a boy. Walter M. Witherspoon was doubly orphaned when he was but twelve years of age and he had previously availed himself of the advantages of the public schools of his native town. Afterward his elder brother secured him a position as office boy in the Wellston office of the Chicago, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad. He finally learned the art of telegraphy and while employed as a telegraph operator he began the study of law, later continuing his professional studies in the law department of the Northwestern Ohio Normal School, at Ada. He was admitted to the bar of his native state in 1900, in which years he located in Fostoria and where he was employed in the offices of the Nickel Plate Railroad until 1906, in which he has well proved his ability and gained distinctive success. He is a staunch Republican in politics, has served as city solicitor of Fostoria and in the spring of 1910 he was candidate of his party for the office of prosecuting attorney of Seneca county. He is affiliated with Fostoria Lodge, No. 935, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; Fostoria Lodge, No. 86, Knights of Pythias; Knights of the

Maccabees; Junior Order of the United American Mechanics; and is also a member of the Railroad Telegraphers' Association. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Witherspoon married Miss Verina Friesner, who was born and reared in Fostoria, and who graduated from its high school. Mr. and Mrs. Witherspoon have one child, Mildred, who was born on the 15th of July, 1904.

CHARLES WILLARD SKEGGS, M. D., senior medical and surgical practitioner of Greenspring, Seneca county, Ohio, was born in Mansfield, Richland county, Ohio, in 1854, a son of Captain John L. Skeggs, an early settler there, later a prominent architect and builder and a veteran of the Civil war, in which he served as captain of Company A, in McLaughlin's famous cavalry squadron. Captain Skeggs was born in 1817, married Angeline Schnurr in 1838 and died in 1889. She was born in 1819 and died in 1873.

Dr. Skeggs began the practice of his profession in Lucas county, Ohio. In 1877 he married Miss Emma Isabella Tucker, a teacher in the Lucas village schools. They have had three children, as follows: Angie Isabel, born July 5, 1880, died August 12, 1880. Florence Jane was born October 21, 1881. She became a teacher in the Greenspring schools. On October 28, 1893, she married Hamilton B. Ward, and she lives in Bucyrus, Ohio. Leonard, born April 30, 1890, now at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, is a student and a teacher. Mrs. Emma Isabella (Tucker) Skeggs is a daughter of Aurelius Tucker, who is best remembered as a successful educator. In his younger years he was a farmer and stockraiser, and in his last years he was employed in that way. He married Miss Isabella Alexander in 1849. She was a daughter of Peter Alexander, a descendant of Judge Alexander of Belmont county, Ohio, and his wife, Jane (Mitchell) Alexander, of that county. Judge Alexander and his wife were of Scotch descent and in their lives conformed to the views of the Covenanters.

Aurelius Tucker was born in 1828 and died in 1897. Isabella (Alexander) Tucker was born in 1826 and died in 1894. He was a son of John Tucker, who was born in Henniker, New Hampshire, in 1792, and moved to Richland county, Ohio, in 1818. In 1821 he went back to New Hampshire and married Miss Mary Ward, and they made their wedding journey to their home in Monroe township, Richland county, Ohio, in a one-horse wagon. He was a farmer and a teacher. In all he taught sixty terms of school. His thorough work and his success gave him wide celebrity. In his day the granting of certificates to teach in the public schools was a function of the court, and it is on record that he triumphantly passed every examination to which he submitted himself. He was also a skillful surveyor, and was much in demand for work of that kind. Ezra Tucker, father of John Tucker, married Elizabeth Lucas in 1777 and settled in the townsite of Henniker, New Hampshire. He was a soldier in the French and Indian war, and when the Revolutionary war began he espoused the cause of the colonists and took arms in their defense, becoming a second lieutenant in Captain Emory's company of Colonel Baldwin's regi-

ment. He served in different commands during the continuance of the struggle and was in many historic engagements, notably in that at White Plains, New York, October 28, 1776, where he was on dangerous duty. He died October 26, 1804; his wife, Elizabeth (Lucas) Tucker, died October 22, 1801. Their son, John Tucker, previously referred to, was born in 1792 and died in 1879. The latter's wife, Mary (Ward) Tucker, was born in Henniker, New Hampshire, in 1800, and died in Kosciusco county, Indiana, in 1876. The line of ancestry of Mary Ward is as follows: Jesse Ward, her father, was born in 1762 and died in 1809. He married Susannah Booth in 1790. Josiah Ward, born in 1741, died in 1797. He married Sarah Goodale (or Goodell) at Marlboro, Massachusetts, in 1761 and moved to Henniker, New Hampshire, in 1764. There he at once became a man of importance. In the year of his arrival he helped to organize the first church at that place. He helped, too, in the laying out of the town, and in March, 1774, he was commissioned captain of the Eightieth Company, Fifteenth Regiment, New Hampshire Militia. Phinneas Ward, born in 1705, died in 1756. He married in Marlboro, Massachusetts, and his wife Mary bore him six children. Joseph Ward, born in 1670, died in 1717. He married Abiah Wheelock at Marlboro, Massachusetts, in 1700. Samuel Ward, born in 1644, married Sarah Howe in 1667 and died in 1729. William Ward, born in 1607, died in 1687, four-score years old. He was one of the Yorkshire Wards who settled in other English counties. From Durham, England, he came to Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1639. The arms of his family are given thus: "Azure—a cross baton or crest, wolf's head erased." He married in 1625 and his wife, Elizabeth, bore him fourteen children, of whom Samuel Ward was eighth in order of nativity.

JOHN H. BENNEHOFF, who for years has figured as one of the leading citizens of Tiffin, Ohio, was born in Adams township, Seneca county, this state, a son of Solomon and Ann (Rader) Bennehoff, natives of Lehigh county, Pennsylvania. About 1837 Solomon Bennehoff left his home in the Keystone state and made the journey to Seneca county, Ohio, on horseback. At that time he bargained for forty acres of land in Adams township, and in 1840 he moved his family to this place, cleared away a patch in the forest and erected a log cabin, and here in primitive style he pioneered. He was a wagon-maker by trade, and made many wagons for the early settlers of this vicinity. After the death of his wife, which occurred in Adams township, he moved to Scipio township, where he died. Of their eight children, only one—John H.—is now living.

Up to the time he was eighteen John H. Bennehoff worked on the farm and attended the public school near his home. Then, having acquired sufficient knowledge to teach, he entered the rank of rural schoolteachers, and thus paved the way to a higher education. From his early boyhood he was studious and energetic, worked and earned his own school books, and after teaching a brief time he further pursued his studies and subsequently entered



Heidelberg College, where he took a course, making a specialty of mathematics, in which he excelled. For twelve years he was engaged in teaching, and while yet a teacher was induced to become a candidate for the office of county recorder, and was duly elected. A good penman and mathematician, he was well qualified for the position and filled it in such a manner that in 1881, and again in 1884 he was re-elected to the office, each time by a flattering majority and in all served six years as county recorder. While thus occupied he not only became acquainted with every land-owner in the county, but also with the location of every tract of land, and at the close of his term of office he was perhaps better fitted to engage in the abstract business than any other man in Seneca county. In September, 1886, he copyrighted his work on abstracts, known as "Abstractor's Aid and Digest to Records of Real Estate." And since his retirement from office he has been engaged in the abstract business. Both in the management of his own affairs and those entrusted to him, Mr. Bennehoff has shown superior ability as a financier. In addition to his interests here he has real estate holdings in New Mexico.

It was at the hands of the Democratic party that Mr. Bennehoff was shown official preferment as above stated, and from time to time he has been the recipient of other honors, in recognition of his long and ardent party service. He has served as a member of the City Council and at present is clerk of the Board of Education, being still a member of the latter, and he was chairman of the Finance Committee while a member of the City Council. While the incumbent of the Recorder's office, Mr. Bennehoff was secretary and vice president of the Recorders' Association of Ohio. He belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Encampment and Militant-Canton, in all of which he has filled all the chairs. Religiously both he and his wife are identified with the First Reformed church of Tiffin.

Mrs. Bennehoff, formerly Miss Ida A. Hensinger, is a native of Adams township and a daughter of John and Catharine Hensinger. She and Mr. Bennehoff are the parents of two sons living: Vinton A. and Olton R., the former a graduate of the Tiffin High School and also of the class of 1910 at Heidelberg College. At present he is a law student at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

CHARLES A. HENRY, a native of Jackson township, Seneca county, Ohio, is a son of Daniel R. and Anna (Simmons) Henry. Daniel R. Henry, of Massachusetts birth and a millwright by trade, came early to Seneca county, locating on a farm in Big Spring township. Anna Simmons, of German nativity, came to America with her parents when she was about four years old. The family settled on a farm in Big Spring township, where she lived until her marriage. Soon after their wedding Daniel R. and Anna (Simmons) Henry made a home for themselves in Jackson township, where children named as follows were born to them: Lucinda F., who is Mrs. George Sylvester; Isabelle, who became the wife of

Henry Kissebeth; Matilda, who is the widow of A. K. Ruse; George W., who lives at Fostoria; Charles A., who is the immediate subject of this notice. Mr. Henry died in Jackson township and Mrs. Henry at Kansas, Ohio.

Charles A. Henry was taken by his parents to London township when he was about six years old. There he was reared to farm work and was a student in district schools until, in his seventeenth year, he went to Fostoria to become a clerk in a store. Later he was for fifteen years a stockfarmer in the employ of Governor Foster, of Ohio. In 1904 he identified himself with a business enterprise at Kansas and in 1907 became cashier of a branch of the Mechanics Banking Company now the Union National Bank of Fostoria. He gives considerable attention to real estate transactions and has been from time to time more or less intimately concerned in various enterprises of importance.

Mr. Henry married Miss Delilah H. Fox, a native of Seneca county. Their niece, Mamie Hall, is a member of their household. Politically Mr. Henry is a Republican. Socially he affiliates with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the order of Gleaners.

NORMAN D. EGBERT.—Farming, the oldest of the industries, has in recent years presented one of the richest fields of scientific investigation, and one of those progressive young Ohioans who represent the cause and who have not only lent their assistance to these experimental endeavors but who have also profited by them very materially in the cultivation of their own land, bringing their acres to the highest possible point of productiveness and managing so cleverly that the resources of the soil were never depleted, but constantly renewed, is Norman D. Egbert, who owns and operates a farm in Pleasant township.

Norman D. Egbert was born May 16, 1872, in Clinton township, and is the son of Norman D. and Susan C. (Holtz) Egbert, the former a native of Ohio. The grandparents were Jeremiah and Lucy (Rule) Egbert, the former having come here when quite young with Uriah and Susannah (Williams) Egbert, natives of New Jersey, who had made their home upon the Susquehanna river. Their identification with this part of Ohio preceded the organization of the county and the land which they entered was the fourth section in Pleasant township upon which Mr. Egbert still resides, the land being redeemed from its rawness by hard work and determination. Uriah Egbert was a God-fearing man and a Methodist of the old type, who believed in promulgating Christianity by strenuous methods if necessary. It was he who donated land for a church and cemetery, and he contributed largely to the meeting of the expenses of the erection of the former. He was a public spirited man and he was equally active in assisting the kindred cause of good education. He died as he lived, a stanch Christian and member of the Methodist Episcopal faith.

His son Jeremiah, grandfather of the subject, was a successful man and at one time was the owner of a half section. He followed in the paternal footsteps in the matter of religious conviction, and

he voted the Republican ticket, whereas his father had been a Whig. Uriah became the father of nine children: Susan, who married a Mr. Strickland; Nancy; Cromer; Pricilla, who married a Mr. Carl; Jeremiah; Thomas; Jackson; Jessie and John. The children of Jeremiah were six in number, as follows: Norman D., Newton A., John, Elizabeth, Isaac and Lillian. Norman and Newton both served their country at the time of the Civil war. The former enlisted twice, first in the one hundred day service as a member of the One Hundred and First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, subsequently becoming first lieutenant of the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Newton was also a member of the One Hundred and Sixty-fourth.

Shortly after the termination of the war, either in the year 1866 or 1867, Norman D., father of the subject, married, and after residing for about a year with his wife's parents, secured the land upon which he now resides. The wife was Susan C. Holtz and she and her husband became the parents of four children, all of whom have achieved prominence and esteem. The eldest, William, married Mary Von Blom, and they reside upon a farm situated near Greenspring. He had the advantage of a thorough education, having attended Heidelberg College at Tiffin, the Ohio State University at Columbus, and Lebanon College in Warren county. They are the parents of two children. The second son, Knott C., is in Oregon, where he has a position in the government school. He attended Heidelberg College and the Ohio State University and took post-graduate work at Cornell. He married Eliza Shannon. Frances, now the wife of T. C. Crable, was educated at Heidelberg College.

Mr. Egbert was the third in order of birth of the children of the family. He resided under the home roof until he became seventeen years of age, receiving his education in the public schools and then going to Wisconsin, where he worked for a number of years. He returned to Ohio in 1894. After his marriage in 1901 he located on the old homestead of his grandfather and took up the work of general farming. As previously suggested he is very modern in his methods. He has devoted a good deal of attention to the raising of alfalfa and has several acres in cultivation, which average five tons to the acre. For the past four or five years he has taken great interest in the state experiment station, and according to its principles has raised corn, alfalfa, potatoes and soy beans, with gratifying result to himself as well as to the station. At the time of the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 Mr. Egbert spent the summer in that city, representing the Evergreen Nursery Company of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, at that exposition. He is the exponent of progressiveness in every line and is esteemed in the community in which he and his forbears have for so many years made their home.

Mr. Egbert was married February 12, 1901, to Ida V. Loose, daughter of John and Julia (Busy) Loose, of Lancaster county. Mrs. Egbert was born February 14, 1879. The subject and his wife have three children: Margery, born January 2, 1903; Catherine, born July 17, 1905; and Norman D., born July 13, 1908.



GEORGE W. EARHART, one of the most popular and well known citizens of Greenspring, has been engaged in the bakery business for forty years, twenty-eight of which he has spent in the town in which he now makes his residence. He has several claims to distinction, being an adept in his trade; a valiant veteran of the Civil war; a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias, and the good friend of the cause of education. Mr. Earhart was born April 15, 1845, in Fairfield county, and is the son of George and Elizabeth (Hill) Earhart, natives of Maryland, who came to Ohio somewhere about the year 1820 and settled in Fairfield county. The father was a miller by trade and his political sympathies lay with the Democratic party. The balance of his life was spent in the Buckeye state.

George W. Earhart received his education in the schools of Lancaster, Fairfield county, and after leaving his desk in the school room he served an apprenticeship in the baker's trade. His career in this useful business, as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, has been of forty years duration, and during twenty-eight of them Greenspring has been fortunate enough to be the scene of his activities. He enlisted in the One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He has given faithful and efficient service in the office of township treasurer, which he held for two terms and he has been a member of the school board for six years, during half of which he held the office of president of that body. He is an enthusiastic lodge man, belonging to the Knights of Pythias, in which order he has filled all the chairs. His comrades have honored him by making him post commander of Potter Post No. 105. He has the record of being the first Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias in Greenspring. He has been treasurer of the lodge and was several times chosen as delegate to the Grand Lodge. He is Presbyterian in religious faith and is one of the valuable workers in the church.

Mr. Earhart was married shortly after the conclusion of the Civil war, to Mary Hill, their union occurring in September, 1865. She was born December 20, 1843, and is the daughter of Martin H. and Lucinda Hill. A native of Lancaster, Ohio, she was educated in that town. Mr. and Mrs. Earhart have children as follows: Talema, born September 1, 1866; Lucinda M., born May 12, 1872; Martin D., born June 16, 1874; George F., born August 21, 1884. The sons have inherited their father's patriotism and have given laudable service to their country. Martin D. served in the Sixth Artillery, of the United States Army, during the Spanish-American war. He subsequently contracted malaria while stationed at Fort Hancock, New Jersey, and was sent on a ten days' furlough after which he was honorably discharged by order of the secretary of war, the papers referring to his service designating it as "excellent." He took up the occupation of clerk and baker with his father upon his return to civilian life and later branched out independently in the building owned by Robert Smith on the old Smith homestead, the Mr. Smith in question having been one of the principal builders of Greenspring. In politics he is an Independent Republican.

Martin D. Earhart laid the foundation of a household by his

marriage on February 16, 1899, to Lulu Billman, daughter of John and Anna (Hoffman) Billman, and a family of seven children are growing up beneath their roof. They are as follows: Beatrice, born October 3, 1899; Emerson, March 9, 1901; Loyal, April 18, 1902; Nora, January 11, 1904; Elizabeth, March 21, 1906; Martin, January 20, 1908; and Mary N., June 6, 1909. The younger Mr. Earhart was born in Toledo Ohio, and there spent the first two years of his life, the residue, with the exception of his service in Battery M., Sixth Regiment of Artillery, having been passed in Greenspring.

